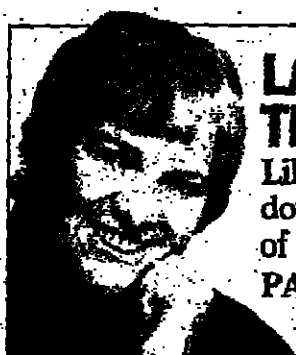




THE NEW £40,000 GAME
See details and premium line entry
PAGE 12



LAMBS TO THE CLONER
Libby Purves on life down on the farm of the future
PAGE 16



MAJOR IS RISKING THE UNION
Roy Jenkins on the dangers of ignoring devolution
Letters **PAGE 17**



HAPPY LANDING
Film maker Johnny Gems comes home
PAGE 15

Tory pledge on subsidies

Tube sell-off to raise £2bn for overhaul

By JONATHAN PRYNN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE London Underground is to be sold for £2 billion and the proceeds ploughed back into building a modern network fit for the 21st century, Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, will announce today.

Sir George has won key concessions from the Treasury that will allow proceeds from the privatisation to be "ring-fenced". Whoever buys the network will be "drip-fed" the sale proceeds through an annual subsidy that will have to be spent on upgrading the 255-mile system.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has conceded that privatisation is politically acceptable only with guarantees of investment and Sir George is said to have argued strongly for a "network for the millennium".

The sale of the Tube will be the main privatisation measure in the Tories' proposed fifth term programme. Ministers have gone cool on an outright sale of the Royal Mail, preferring instead to opt for increased "commercialisation" within the Post Office, and they have dropped a plan to privatise Channel 4.

The Government believes that the improving public image of rail privatisation has given it a window of opportunity to launch the Tube sale before the election, and today's announcement - which had been postponed three times - coincides with the sale of the final former British Rail franchise, ScotRail, to the National Express bus group in Glasgow.

Three main options will be outlined in the White Paper published by Sir George today: a "lock stock and barrel" sale of the network, a line-by-line sale; and the creation of a Railtrack-style

infrastructure authority with individual lines franchised to private operators.

Sir George is believed to favour selling a 10 or 20-year franchise for the entire network, with the Government retaining ultimate strategic control. There would also be an industry regulator to ensure that services were maintained and investment made, and a cap on fare increases.

Labour, which favours private investment in the Tube while retaining overall strategic control, said last night that the Conservative plans would "sell public assets cheap and delay investment further".

Labour spokesmen claimed that the scheme would cost thousands of votes in key Tory marginals and Glenda Jackson, the party's London Transport spokeswoman, intends to launch a campaign aimed at ten specific seats, including Enfield, Southgate, which is held by Michael Portillo, and Steven Norris's Epping Forest. "Privatisation could cost the Tories ten seats, it could cost them five seats. Either way our message to them is go ahead, make our day," Ms Jackson said.

Andrew Smith, the Shadow Transport Secretary, said that the Tories thought that, through privatisation, they could "wash their hands of the mess in which they have left London's transport system. The nightmare vision of a Tory fifth term threatens Tube services and fares for millions of Londoners, bringing more transport chaos to the capital." Ministers have been stung by the sustained criticism from London's business leaders about its underfunding of the Tube and are convinced that only the private

sector can deliver the modern, reliable network that the capital requires.

In a letter to the Prime Minister leaked earlier this month, Sir George said that privatisation proceeds would be in the range of £1.2 billion to £2 billion, and advisers believe that the top end of the range is achievable. Sir George admitted, however, that after subsidy, the net proceeds to the Exchequer could be as low as £600 million, compared with the Tube's net assets of around £7 billion.

The finances of the London Underground, whose annual revenue is nearly £800 million, have steadily improved during the 1990s and last year it made an operating profit of £197 million. However, it needs about £400 to £500 million a year in government support to maintain the system and begin to clear the backlog of modernisation and repairs. In last year's Budget its funding was reduced by £700 million over the next three years, forcing the postponement of more than 200 projects.

The decision on the Tube privatisation came as John Major called senior ministers together to "polish" the general election manifesto. Strategists have now pencilled in March 13 as the day that Mr Major will formally announce that polling day will be May 1. He would be expected to inform the Queen of his plans after a Cabinet meeting that morning and to use the Conservative central council meeting in Bath on the following two days as his election springboard. Parliament would be dissolved either just before or after Easter to allow for remaining legislation to be rushed through.

Radical programme, page 8



An outfit from the Owen Gaster collection being shown during the London Fashion Week yesterday. Elsewhere top-name models were wearing the knitted designs of Laine Keogh. Page 5

Police hold the foster father of Billie-Jo

By EMMA WILKINS

THE foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins was arrested yesterday by detectives investigating her murder.

Sion Jenkins, 39, a deputy headmaster, was detained overnight at Hastings police station, East Sussex. The arrest came nine days after Billie-Jo, 13, was bludgeoned to death with an 18-inch metal tent spike as she painted patio doors in the garden of her home.

A spokesman for Sussex police said last night: "A local man in his thirties has been arrested and is being held at Hastings police station in connection with the murder of Billie-Jo Jenkins."

A spokesman refused to confirm or deny that Mr Jenkins was the man helping police with their inquiries.

Mr Jenkins, who is on compassionate leave from his post at William Parker Comprehensive School for Boys in Hastings, appeared at a press conference three days after the murder with his wife Lois, 35, to appeal for information about the killing. He told the press conference that his family was "devastated" by the murder and paid tribute to his "buoyant, articulate, loud and fun-loving" foster daughter.

On the afternoon of the killing, Mr Jenkins said he was collecting his two eldest daughters, Lottie, 10, and Annie, 12, from a music lesson. It was Lottie who found the battered body of her foster sister when they returned home.

The Jenkins, who fostered Billie-Jo five years ago, became her legal guardians in December last year. The couple have two younger daughters, Esther, 9, and Maya, 7.

Mr Jenkins is the third man to be arrested in connection with the murder. A 44-year-old man from Hastings was arrested and released on bail into the care of a secure psychiatric unit last week. A 36-year-old local man was also arrested and bailed last week.

Peter Webb, the Jenkins family's immediate neighbour, said he was astonished when told of Mr Jenkins' arrest. "He's a lovely bloke and I can't believe he did it. He's a hard working, respectable professional man," he said.

Halifax votes for a bank

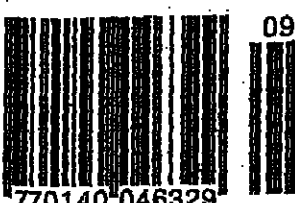
The vote to convert Halifax Building Society into a bank was carried by an overwhelming majority of its members. From a total of seven million eligible investing members 5.1 million were in favour and 110,000 against. Of 2.2 million borrowing members, 1.5 million voted in favour and 40,000 against. The average share payout will be about £1300. **Page 25**

Police admission

The chief constable of the West Midlands Police admitted that at the time the Bridgewater Three were arrested it was normal for officers to interrogate suspects before they looked for evidence. Asked if interrogations "did get rough", he said: "Of course." **Page 2**

Buying The Times overseas:
Australia \$3.50; Belgium 8 Ffr 80;
Canada \$3.50; Caribbean Pst 325;
Cyprus £1.20; Denmark 14.00; France 14.00;
Greece 14.00; Hong Kong 14.00;
Ireland 14.00; Italy 14.00; Japan 14.00;
Korea 14.00; Luxembourg 14.00;
Malaysia 14.00; Mexico 14.00;
Morocco 14.00; New Zealand 14.00;
Norway 14.00; Pakistan 14.00;
Peru 14.00; Portugal 14.00; Spain 14.00;
Sweden 14.00; Switzerland 14.00;
Tunisia 14.00; USA \$3.50.

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>



TV & RADIO 46, 47
WEATHER 24
CROSSWORDS 24, 48

Three killed on motorway as hurricane threatens

By LIN JENKINS

THREE people died in a motorway crash as Britain braced itself for the worst gales of the winter last night. Weathermen were forecasting hurricane force winds in some parts of the south.

The M5 at Bristol was closed in both directions after a water tanker collided with a car, catapulting it into a van causing both to explode in flames. Avon fire service said driving conditions were atrocious.

Two people in the car and the driver of the van died. The tanker driver was last night being treated in hospital.

The Meteorological Office said the gales were the most sustained period of strong winds since the winter of 1990 which led to the greatest payout by insurance companies for storm damage - eclipsing, even, claims for the

great storm of 1987. The high winds are likely to last until the weekend.

Winds up to 80 mph were forecast for southern counties. A spokesman said: "It's all



"The forecast appears to be wind"

ways difficult to say how much damage will be done but building damage might not be quite as bad as in 1990."

A spokesman for the Association of British Insurers said it was prepared for the worst, but added: "The Met Office has been wrong before and we hope they're wrong on this occasion."

There were flood warnings in the south west from Land's End eastwards. Coastal communities were told there was the possibility of tides breaching sea defences during the night. The Environment Agency issued "red" warnings for Minehead, Weston-super-Mare and Clevedon in Somerset, and "amber" warnings of waves breaking over sea walls and beaches for north Cornwall, north Devon and the Chesil Bank area in south Dorset.

Princess sues over dress profit report

By ALAN HAMILTON

LAWYERS acting for Diana, Princess of Wales, last night issued a libel writ against a Sunday newspaper over allegations that she would personally profit from the impending auction of nearly 100 of her evening dresses.

The step is unprecedented for the Princess. She has never sued for libel, although in 1993 she sued for breach of confidence over secretly-taken photographs of herself in a London gym, and last year brought an action for harassment against a freelance photographer. If the libel action came to court it could involve her appearing in the witness box.

Libel cases are rarely brought by the Royal Family, for that very reason. The last by a senior royal was in 1910, when the future King George V brought a successful criminal libel action against a

journalist who published a story alleging that the then Prince of Wales had secretly married in Malta, inferring that he had committed bigamy with Princess Mary. In 1990 Viscount Linley won £35,000 damages from *Today* after it alleged he had been banned from a Chelsea pub for throwing beer over other drinkers.

Anthony Julius, the Princess's solicitor, said last night that she was suing Express Newspapers and Richard Adis, Editor of the *Express On Sunday*, over a front-page story at the weekend suggesting that up to half the proceeds from the June sale, which could make up to £4 million, would go to the Princess and only half to charity.

Yesterday the Princess's office strenuously denied the

Continued on page 2, col 5

Spies who go into the red lose security clearance

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SOME of Britain's spies have had their security clearance withdrawn because they have gone chronically into the red.

The parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee, chaired by Tom King, the former Defence Secretary, yesterday issued a warning about the dangers of spies in financial trouble.

The committee's annual report said they could be targeted by Russian agents bearing cash.

The committee which provides parliamentary oversight of MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service; MI5, the Security Service; and GCHQ, the government communications headquarters in Cheltenham, said Britain was under a continuing threat from the activities of Russian intelligence services. "This threat exists in a

climate when personal, financial or career problems can easily develop into security problems if not recognised and addressed at an early stage," the report said.

The heads of the three agencies, Sir David Spedding, Chief of MI6; Stephen Lander, Director-General of MI5; and David Omand, Director of GCHQ, had each told the committee that "financial problems or chronic indebtedness" had been the main

reason behind the withdrawal of vetting clearance "from contractors and, in some cases, serving members of staff".

The committee said: "Signs that individuals are greatly overspending their income, without any visible external means, should be of similar concern."

The committee added that it was "money, rather than ideology" that

Continued on page 2, col 1

School Fees and Further Education Costs



Planning for independence

With school fees rising and university grants frozen - there's never been a more important time to plan for the costs of education.

Whether you are planning in advance or require immediate help with fees, an SFA tailor-made plan could help you manage more easily.

To find out more about how parents (and grandparents) can afford to provide for an independent education, clip and return the coupon today or telephone

Freephone 0800 282997

School Fees Insurance Agency Limited
SFA House, 15 Fosse Road,
Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1JA

Name

Address

Home telephone

Office telephone

T75/2/97

Send in the clones for a Stepford Parliament

A TORY whip walked in during Questions yesterday and stared for a moment at the loyal Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesend), who talks like a speak-your-weight machine. There was something chilling in the stare. Might the Whips' Office be contemplating cloning? 650 Identically loyal Tory candidates with gravelly voices for the election? It should be possible: the biological make-up of an obedient Tory is less complex than that of a sheep.

But as I watched Michael Heseltine on one of his good-hair days, a better plan occurred. The Deputy Prime Minister, on hand for Questions, had swept back his mane in an ashy-blond helmet. Were a bus ever to run him down, it

would be a tragedy to consign to the coffin a hairdo upon which so much has been lavished. Why waste it? Corneas, removed from the eyes of the late Deng Xiaoping, are to be given to medical science for transplant. Might Hezza donate his scalp to medical science, for use on thinning Tony Blair?

Hezza was tackled noisily, yesterday, by Labour's Deputy Leader, John Prescott. What a mouth will be lost to us when Mr Prescott departs this life! Could Prescott's mouth not be preserved, for use by a successor politician less orally endowed?

Plus Tony Banks's tongue. A thinking man's barrow boy, the sharp-tongued Labour MP for

Newham, NW was on his feet to accuse the Tories of accepting stolen money from Asil Nadir. The Conservative party was "funded by foreign crooks and foreign fascists", he rapped. Dennis Skinner (Lab, Bolsover) growled angrily away ("yer can ave these sort of fancy Tory gimmicks") Skinner's spleen must be kept for posterity, too.

Alongside Tony Jessell's lungs. The MP (C) for Twickenham warmed up yesterday with a little rant, about the "Common Market", at the courteous and likeable Liam Fox, Jessell's lungs driven by Skinner's spleen. Banks's tongue in Prescott's mouth armed with Tony Blair's teeth framed by Michael Portillo's lips and maned with Heseltine's hair... the combination would be awesome: we are looking at a truly spectacular politician. Which bit of Paddy Ashdown might be tacked on to our identikit MP, modestly forbids us to propose; here (what with Steven Norris) we shall be spoilt for choice.

Tony Banks was back on his feet with a complaint for Michael Alison, answering for the Church Commissioners. Why was the Anglican Church driving away traditional Christians with its "happy-clappy" forms of worship, he asked? "They go for the hand of God to be laid upon them from above, not to be felt up by someone in the adjacent pew."

Then a miracle occurred. The mournful Mr Alison made a joke. He accused his tormentor, Banks, of being unfit ("alohse") to lead a traditionalist service for Banks was "shouty-louty", rather than "happy-clappy".

Up rose a quivering Sir Patrick Cormack (C, Staffs S) - huffy-puffy

and hoity-toity - to reproach the saintly Mr Alison, more hoity-poly than roly-poly and for whom the term "rumpy-pumpy" was never less apt.

Arty-farty Michael Fabricant (C, Mid-Staffs) wanted Mr Alison to know that at Lichfield Cathedral he had attended a service for girl guides. The MP spoiled our reveries of him in blue skirt and cap by adding, hastily, that he had not attended as a girl guide.

And the House moved to debate, in Opposition time, the Health Service crisis. Crisis? By 5.30, discounting those who had to attend ex officio, there were four Tories present, seven Labour MPs and a Liberal Democrat.

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

Disposal of BSE cattle 'will take 13 years'

The disposal of more than a million cattle slaughtered because of BSE will take another 13 years under current arrangements, Labour said yesterday. Government incompetence meant some cattle remains would have to be stored until 2010 unless the process was accelerated.

John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, called for a public inquiry into the disposal programme. He unveiled a map showing the sites where remains are being stored and where carcasses could be rendered if further contracts were signed. Every community would be affected by "the legacy of this incompetence and mismanagement".

Millennium man
Eric Sorensen, the head of the London Docklands Development Corporation, is to be the new chief executive of the Millennium Commission. He will take over next month from Jennifer Page, who left last month to oversee the Millennium Exhibition at Greenwich.

Betts case rerun
A teenager has gone on trial for the second time accused of being involved in supplying Ecstasy to Leah Betts, who died at her 18th birthday party. Steven Packman, 19, of Laindon, Essex, was the first link in the supply chain. Norwich Crown Court was told. He denies the charge.

Welcome return
Victor Read, 32, from Cornwall, the scientist kidnapped in Ecuador's rainforest, yesterday ate his first hearty meal after a week of eating fried ants and manioc, and is resting on a comfortable bed after nights on mats in a bamboo hut, a British Embassy official said.

Food poison clue
A private water supply contaminated with animal waste is being investigated as a source of an E. coli food poisoning outbreak in the Scottish Borders. Two more people have the infection taking the total to six. They were among guests at a Burns Supper at Robertson village hall.

Miner trapped
A miner was trapped last night after a rock fall 1½ miles inside a drift mine. Four colleagues were rescued and taken to hospital after the accident at the Castle mine, near Blenkinsopp Castle, Northumberland. The Mines Rescue Service was working to free the miner.

Steele chassis
Tommy Steele's black 1955 Morris Minor convertible with 45,000 miles on the clock was sold for £4,140 in a Brooks car auction at Olympia, west London. The car had had three owners from new. A 1959 Ferrari Superamerica was sold for £96,100 to an American.

Hawaii alive-o
The American police series Hawaii Five-O, last screened in Britain in 1991, is to be revived. Jack Lord, who played the detective Steve McGarrett in the original series and now lives in residence in Hawaii, is believed to have been offered a cameo role in the new series.

Bridgewater focus turns to police

Police ethics were unknown in 70s, says police chief

By Carol Midgley

THE Chief Constable of the West Midlands force admitted yesterday that at the time the Bridgewater Three were arrested it was normal for officers to interrogate suspects before they looked for evidence.

Edward Crew said: "Back in the 1970s we would arrest somebody, we would interrogate them, and then we might bother to look for other evidence if they didn't admit it."

Mr Crew, who was at the time serving as an officer in the Metropolitan Force, was asked if the interrogations could ever get rough. He replied: "Of course they

could." He went on: "Even in those days there was never, ever an expectation that police officers would break the law - the substantial change has come about in the culture in which we work."

He said that as an officer working then he could not recall "words like ethics and ethical behaviour" being used in the police. "They weren't actually important to us. We can't go on like that and quite simply we have moved away from that, from those sorts of ways of doing business."

"I have to say that if the penalty we pay is that guilty people walk away and don't

get convicted, and I suspect there are many of those, that is a price worth paying. There is never any circumstances, and I have never believed there have been, in which one can justify locking up an innocent person."

Mr Crew said that although the new safeguards against miscarriages of justice used it far harder for people to be wrongly convicted he could not ensure that it would not ever happen again.

He said he was sure that the vast majority of his officers were "honourable people" but said that if any of his officers had committed a criminal offence during the Carl Bridgewater case they would be brought before the courts.

"We have a justice system and it applies to everybody the same. I would simply give you a guarantee that where there is evidence of a police officer's misbehaviour to a criminal level it will be pursued and people will be put before the courts. I guarantee that there will be no whitewash."

He gave warning that any criminal behaviour by police officers or civilian support staff "is wholly unacceptable and will never be tolerated", adding that "the end can never justify the means". Mr Crew said he did not wish to say anything "which might affect the likelihood of those who are responsible for misbehaving in this case being brought before the courts if there is evidence against them."

Michael Hickey, Vincent Hickey and James Robinson were released on bail on Friday pending a full appeal hearing on April 8, after the High Court heard that evidence used during the 1979 murder trial had been fabricated by police officers.

Former detective denies forgery

A FORMER police officer who may face criminal charges over fabricated evidence in the Carl Bridgewater murder inquiry spoke out for the first time yesterday to proclaim his innocence (Carol Midgley writes).

Graham Leake, a retired detective constable, issued a statement denying he had acted improperly and asserting that any charges would be defended.

Mr Leake, now a security guard in the Midlands, was named in the Court of Appeal hearing on Friday as one of two police officers allegedly involved in the forging of a confession by one of the Bridgewater Three, Vince Hickey. But David Twigg, representing the Police Federation, said he did not believe there was any evidence to support charges against Mr

Leake or others. In the statement he said: "We wish to make it plain both on behalf of Mr Leake and other officers whom we represent that our clients deny any improper practice in relation to the investigation of the murder of Carl Bridgewater."

He added: "The decision of the Crown not to oppose the current appeal by the convicted men appears to have been triggered by the reported results of a forensic examination of the written confession of Patrick Molloy, which are said to support an allegation that this confession was induced by the use of a forged statement of admission by Vincent Hickey."

"We are not as satisfied as the Crown appear to be that these reported forensic results lead to this irresistible inference."



Michael Howard and his wife, Sandra, who is said to be deeply upset

Howard's wife denies call for cut in prisoners' food

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE Home Secretary's wife was yesterday embroiled in a dispute with the former director-general of prisons over allegations that she wanted cuts in the nutritional content of prison food.

Sandra Howard demanded an apology from Derek Lewis, two newspapers and Granada Television, which broadcast the claim last night.

Mrs Howard is said to be deeply upset at the accusations. John Turnbull, her solicitor, said: "She is a great deal more liberal than this picture of her suggests. She is upset. She is angry at having

this dumped on her head."

Mr Turnbull, of the City firm Linklaters and Paines, said he had written to *World in Action*, where the allegation was made, *The Observer* and *The Sunday Times*. Penguin Books and Mr Lewis seeking an apology and retraction. He said he had been instructed to tell them that she had never held or expressed any of those views attributed to her.

"She never said or suggested that any actual or proposed nutritional standards at Her Majesty's Prisons were too generous," Mr Turnbull said.

Mr Lewis, sacked as director-general of the Prison Service by Mr Howard, has told *World in Action* that he was taken aside by Mr Howard's then aide, David Cameron, and told that Mrs Howard believed that "the prison code's requirements to provide a balanced and nutritious diet was somehow too generous for prisoners".

In his book, *Hidden Agenda*, Mr Lewis says he was told that Mrs Howard thought that the code's prescription of a balanced nutritious diet was "giving today's offenders much more than they deserved".

Minister retreats on jury trial curbs

By Philip Webster and Frances Gibb

MICHAEL HOWARD is expected to revise his plan to curb the right to jury trials amid reservations from the Prime Minister and other senior members of the Government.

The Home Secretary is likely to tone down his original proposals to remove jury trial for thousands of defendants when he announces a range of measures shortly to speed up the criminal justice system. Mr Major is understood to be worried that such a move, which would be deeply controversial with the judiciary and many Conservative MPs, would overshadow Mr Howard's other proposals to break the logjam in the court system. These are expected to be more popular with the electorate and some are likely to feature in the election manifesto.

When it emerged last week that Mr Howard was likely to support the curtailment of jury trials for theft, deception, actual or grievous bodily harm and handling stolen goods Alastair Goodlad, the chief whip, and Brian Mawhinney, the Conservative chairman, intervened to warn him of a backlash from Tory MPs.

The Home Secretary is now expected to put the idea out to consultation although he will probably express his sympathy towards the idea. The proposals to remove the right to elect jury trial - the centrepiece of a Home Office report - will refuse the battle between the Government and the judiciary.

Senior judges would have serious reservations about removing a defendant's right to trial by jury in an estimated 35,000 cases a year. They are also expected to oppose other proposals in the report, particularly the suggestion that a Crown Prosecution Service lawyer should be placed in each police station.

Video interviews, page 5
Law Report, page 35

Spies in the red to lose clearance

Continued from page 1

was the principal motivation of people betraying their countries. Members of MI6, MI5 and GCHQ are paid at Civil Service rates.

MI6 officers who have their clearance withdrawn have to leave the service because "all, or virtually all, MI6 staff have to be vetted," a security source said. The committee said personal problems might not be apparent when an agent starts. "Hence the continuing importance of effective application of security procedures, such as frequent and, at times, random vetting reviews," the report said.

The defences against Russian attempts to penetrate the British intelligence services were "not as strong as they should be," the report said. It called for investigations into individuals' bank balances and "physical searches" of staff entering and leaving agency buildings.

The committee report was published in the light of the Aldrich Ames case in the United States. The former senior CIA officer pocketed £1.5 million from the Russians in return for betraying American secrets on a vast scale. Nine CIA agents were executed because of his betrayal, and Mr King said yesterday that

the latest information indicated that several others may also have been killed. The report concluded, however, that damage to Britain's security arising from the Ames case was not serious.

Mr King insisted at a Cabinet Office press conference that there was "absolutely no evidence" of an Ames-style traitor operating in any of the British agencies. However, the report quoted the words of John Deutch, the former head of the CIA, who said: "There is only one thing worse than finding a spy in your organisation and that is not finding a spy in your organisation."

Princess sues for libel

Continued from page 1

report. Fashion experts expect the sale of her dresses to make at least £4 million. Rumours, emanating from America, that she would split the proceeds between herself and her charities, were ridiculed by her staff, who pointed out that under the terms of her divorce the Princess is barred from any commercial undertaking that would benefit her financially. They said she would even be paying her own fare to

New York to publicise the auction at a fundraising dinner.

Proceeds from the sale are to be divided between two of her remaining charities, the Royal Marsden Hospital in west London, a leading cancer institution of which she is president, and the AIDS Crisis Trust, of which she is patron.

There will not have been an auction like it since Sotheby's sold the Duchess of Windsor's jewels in Geneva. Today their

arch-rival, Christie's, will parade details of nearly 100 evening dresses which they will auction in New York on June 26.

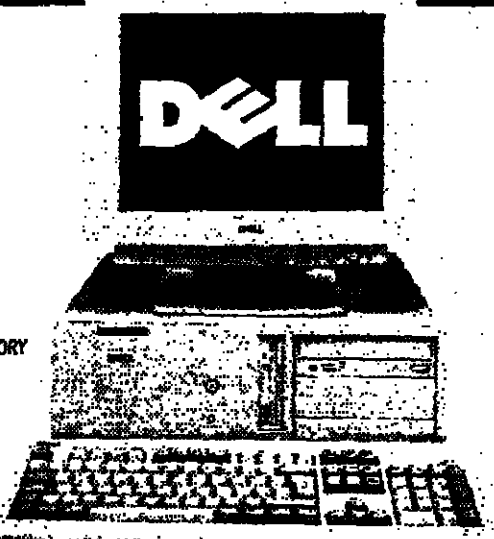
The dresses going to auction are far from being the Princess's entire evening wardrobe. After nearly 16 years on the public stage, she is thought to have amassed many hundreds of formal evening outfits, some paid for by the Duchy of Cornwall, some given free by designers.

Definitely a catch.

DELL DIMENSION P166v

- INTEL 166MHz PENTIUM® PROCESSOR
- 16MB SDRAM
- 2GB HARD DRIVE
- 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR (13.75" VIEWABLE AREA)
- 512KB PIPELINE BURST CACHE
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS
- INTEGRATED 64-BIT PCI LOCAL BUS VIDEO + LMB VIDEO MEMORY
- MICROSOFT® WINDOWS 95

£899 (£1,085.70)
INCL. DELIVERY & VAT



Some of our competitors claim to be offering better deals than us. But when it comes to offering so much for little, no one can catch us. Take the Dell Dimension™ P166v Power Platform. It comes with the awesome Intel 166MHz Pentium® Processor and a price tag of only £899 (£1,085.70 inc delivery and VAT). And just

to prove a point, it also includes a large 2Gb Hard Drive and a 15" monitor (13.75" vis). All in all, a better deal than anything put up by our competitors. Call us today on 01344 724 691 and talk to the world's largest direct PC manufacturer."



TALK DIRECT TO THE NUMBER ONE.
01344 724691
Between 8am and 8pm weekdays, 10am to 4pm Sat.
www.dell.com

Dell and the Dell logo are registered trademarks and Dell Dimension is a trademark of Dell Computer Corporation. The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Microsoft, Windows, Office Professional 95 are registered trademarks of the Microsoft Corporation. Microsoft is a registered trademark. Delivery is charged at £25 (£29.37 inc VAT) per system. Finance is available subject to status. Full details available on request. Prices correct at date of publication. The photograph product may not always match the specifications in this advert. Prices quoted refer to specification descriptions only. The prices listed reflect the information available at the time of going to press. Prices change frequently. All prices and specifications are subject to change without prior notice or obligation. Offer supplied with Windows 95. Dell mouse and keyboard included. Dell Computer Corporation Ltd, Midland House, Western Road, Brixton, London SW9 7RL. Offer available for a limited period only.

Superman actor to return in remake of Hitchcock classic

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CHRISTOPHER REEVE, the Superman actor paralysed in a horseriding accident two years ago, is to make his screen comeback in a remake of *Rear Window*, the Hitchcock thriller about a wheelchair-bound photographer.

Reeve has agreed to take the role played by James Stewart in the 1954 film, which tells the story of the news photographer who, confined to his room after breaking his leg in a car crash, sees a murder in a neighbouring flat.

The original film co-starred Grace Kelly as Stewart's girlfriend. The new film will closely follow the original plot. Instead of a girlfriend, however, Reeve will have a male medical assistant. That role has not yet been filled.

It will be Reeve's first major role since the accident that left him paralysed from the neck down. He has become a staunch disabled rights campaigner and last year made his directorial debut with *In the Company of Men*, a film about a young man with AIDS who returns home to die. The film stars Glenn Close, Whoopi Goldberg and Bridget Fonda.



Reeve: film marks his return to a major role

Reeve made a brief appearance last year in an American television film, *A Step Toward Tomorrow*, in which he played a quadriplegic who tries to bring comfort to a paralysed boy and his mother.

The *Rear Window* remake will try to recapture the claustrophobia of the original, with the plot unfolding from the vantage point of the man in the wheelchair. The new version will try to make the

most of technology now available to people with disabilities, such as voice-activated lighting, telephones, window blinds and cameras.

Robert Gaulin, a New York entertainment lawyer who offered Reeve the part, said that the actor was keen to do it. "He has turned down everything else just to do this project. It is perfect for him. As long as he is well enough to do it, it will get done," Mr Gaulin said that the film would be shot this autumn or next year, depending on Reeve's health.

Mr Gaulin is working on the remake with Sheldon Abend, the literary agent who owns the remake and sequel rights to *Rear Window*. The pair have promised to donate 5 per cent of the proceeds of the film to spinal cord research or a charity of Reeve's choosing.

John Michael Hayes, who wrote the original film script, has also expressed an interest in writing a new script. The remake rights to *Rear Window* were the subject to a lengthy legal battle, which culminated in a US Supreme Court ruling in 1990.

The short story, *It Had To Be Murder*, by Cornell Woolrich, on which *Rear Window* was based, was first published in *Dime Detective Magazine* in 1942. Woolrich sold the film rights in 1945 and Mr Abend bought them for \$650 in 1971. When the film was re-released in 1983, Mr Abend sued MCA, its distributors. Hitchcock's heirs and Stewart (a trustee of the Hitchcock estate), demanding a share in the \$12 million profits.

His victory established the "Abend Rule" to guarantee that authors or their heirs can profit from their works if their value has soared during the course of their 28-year copyright renewal term.



Grace Kelly and James Stewart get claustrophobic in Hitchcock's gripping 1954 classic *Rear Window*

Man found at low tide in Thailand 'murdered'

BY ANDREW DRUMMOND AND STEPHEN FARRELL

A BRITISH tourist found with weights tied to his feet off a pier in a remote fishing village in Thailand could have been the victim of a Thai mafia killing, police said.

The officer leading the investigation into the death of Geoffrey Chapman, who was found at low tide in Sriracha, 100 miles southeast of Bangkok, is treating it as suicide. But police in the nearby beach resort of Pattaya said it appeared to be murder. One officer said: "When the mafia want to make a point, they make sure the body is found."

Mr Chapman, 54, a pylon erector from Scarborough, North Yorkshire, was found on Sunday. One report said he was attached to the balcony of a fisheries building with one rope round his neck and another round his waist. His ankles were tied to a rock.

Peter Chapman, Mr Chapman's older brother, said last night that the family had been told he was murdered. He said his brother, who is estranged from his wife and has two grown-up children, regularly travelled to Thailand on his own during long breaks from working in Germany.

Church helps to pay for vicar's drink treatment

BY JOANNA BALE

A PAROCHIAL church council is to pay £2,500 towards the cost of sending its vicar to a clinic that deals with alcohol dependence. The Rev Edward Coombes of St Bartholomew's Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham, spent two and a half weeks in the private Woodbourne Clinic in the city. His treatment cost £8,000.

Mr Coombes, 57, said last night: "I just woke up one morning and decided that I needed treatment at the clinic. I have visited patients there before, but decided that I needed help."

"The generosity of the PCC is a marvellous story. I paid the rest myself. The dedication of the doctors was wonderful," Lee Reed, director of the 45-bed psychiatric hospital, said the vicar would have been at the Manor Clinic, which specialises in addictions. He said: "I cannot comment on particular cases but we do have an addictions unit which deals primarily with alcohol and drug addicts."

"We use a 12-step programme which involves a mixture of group, individual and family counselling. We deal with people with all kinds of psychiatric disorders, in-

cluding depression and eating disorders, but anyone seeking treatment here must have been referred to us by their GP or by another medically qualified consultant."

Joe Heaton, the church warden, said that Mr Coombes admitted himself as a patient in July and resumed his duties after being discharged. He said: "On hearing of Mr Coombes' admission to Woodbourne, the parochial church council immediately expressed its confidence and goodwill towards him, agreeing that it would meet up to 50 per cent of the costs arising from his treatment."

"They agreed that this money would come from a reserve account containing, among other funds, money from various bequests intended for the benefits of the church and the clergy."

"This is an entirely separate account from the main operating account which contains money given in the church collection."

"This was a gesture on our part. Mr Coombes at no time came to us asking for any money. He has now resumed his duties and seems to be fully recovered."

The sticky question is: are biscuits birds of a feather?

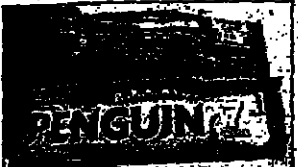
BY DANIEL MCGORRY

CONFUSED shoppers explained to a judge yesterday how they mistakenly purchased a Puffin when scouring their supermarkets to pick up a Penguin.

United Biscuits, which sells £35 million worth of Penguins a year, has accused Asda of trying to usurp its bestselling brand with a blatant imitation called a Puffin.

United Biscuits, which launched Penguins more than 60 years ago, is suing the supermarket chain for trademark infringement after it launched its Puffin brand last year. Both depict cartoon characters of a seabird on their wrappers and are roughly the same size, which United Biscuits says is intended to lure its loyal shoppers astray.

Deborah Smith told the High Court how when her



Rivals in a market worth millions of pounds

husband espied a Puffin in Asda he called it "a rip off." "I said it must be United Biscuits making it for Asda. It seemed so blatant it was a Penguin in disguise."

Pauline Bennett explained her confusion to the court. "Both are water birds. Both begin with P and end in N." "What about pigeon," she was asked by Gordon Pollock, QC, for Asda. "That does not hang around water," she replied.

Jamie Wilson, who works for United Biscuits, said he was among those who an-

swered an e-mail request on the Internet from his company's trademark department asking for anyone who was confused by the brands.

He was shopping with his mother Muriel who mistakenly selected a Puffin. "I assumed it was our own-label brand and I thought it a bit silly to produce something as similar as one of our premier brands," he said.

Michael Bloch for United Biscuits said: "To an orthologist there may be a clear distinction between a puffin and a penguin. The question is not whether a careful and perspicacious purchaser would be misled. One takes one's customers as one finds them and that includes people who are in a hurry, people who are old or very young. The principal complaint is that people will believe Puffin is manufactured by the plaintiff." The case continues.



The Spice Girls ruled the Brit Awards at rehearsals yesterday. The group, who made their musical debut less than a year ago, won nominations in five categories of the annual awards presented at London's Earls Court last night

'Bent copper' is jailed for £2m cannabis plot

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A CONSTABLE in the Metropolitan Police was jailed for ten years yesterday for his part in a £2 million plot to smuggle cannabis into Britain. Ronald Palumbo, 31, from Chingford in Essex, was one of four men sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court.

Judge Rooke, QC, told Palumbo: "With your police service, you should have known better. In fact, you are what's known as a 'bent copper' in an otherwise honourable force."

Kenneth Harris, 43, of Welling, southeast London, the leader of the group and father-in-law of Palumbo, was jailed for 12 years. David Ng, 37, of Winchester Road, London, for ten years, and John Illingworth, 39, of Greenwich, southeast London, for nine years.

The 15-day trial had been told that a large quantity of cannabis with a street value of more than £2 million had been found expertly concealed in a trailer of a lorry owned by Harris. The lorry was stopped at Dover Eastern Docks in November 1995.

James Vine, for the prosecution, said: "Four trips had been made by this lorry and trailer during the latter half of 1995 and Harris was the organiser of the whole enterprise." Palumbo travelled out on all four trips, usually returning by air. On the first of the trips Palumbo went in the cab of the lorry being

driven by Ng. On the second Palumbo and Harris flew from London to Spain, returning two days later.

"On the third trip Palumbo again flew out of London with Harris, again staying in Spain for two days, and on the fourth and final trip Palumbo flew to Spain with Ng. Illingworth was the driver on the final three trips."

Illingworth and Ng had said they had no idea drugs were involved. Palumbo, who had joined the police force in 1986, was posted to Stoke Newington Police Station and transferred to Lime House Police Station in about 1992. In June 1992, he was suspended after allegations of corruption were made into his arrest of a crack cocaine dealer. In November 1995 he was acquitted.

Palumbo had told the court that during the suspension from 1992 to 1995 he had been under pressure and was on medication because of the impending proceedings and was asked by Harris to go on the trips to Spain so he could get away from it all. "I have been used by Harris. I had nothing to do with the drugs. If I had known about the drugs I would have told someone," he said.

A Customs spokesman said after the case: "We have received full co-operation from the Met. There is no suggestion of other police officers being involved."

Sir Norman Foster's masterpiece in steel

Not for the first time, Sir Norman Foster examines the familiar stainless steel Rolex GMT-Master on his wrist.

"I would say it is a design classic," he says, then continues by explaining that he admires how functional it is, how simply and directly it communicates information to him, and how he uses its rotatable bezel to check way-points when he is piloting his helicopter.

For Sir Norman Foster, good design is generated by people's needs. He has answered these needs with outstanding architectural solutions in his native England, throughout Europe, and - most notably - in Hong Kong.

It was Foster's design for the headquarters of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank that confirmed his position at the forefront of international architecture.

This supremely elegant building epitomises many of Foster's beliefs as an architect.

The interior is extraordinarily light and airy. This is achieved by a breath-taking complex of steel supports which leave vast uncluttered spaces for the people who work there, and by a unique 'sunscope' which follows the progress of the sun and funnels light down into the atrium.

Then there is Foster's legendary attention to detail. He has enormous concern for the way in which things are put together and immense respect for the materials he uses.

As one architectural reviewer has commented: "Foster takes engineering materials and treats them like jewellery."

Is it any surprise that he should wear a Rolex?

ROLEX of Geneva



The Rolex Oyster GMT-Master II Chronometer in stainless steel. Also available in 18ct. gold or in steel and yellow metal.

Only a select group of jewellers sell Rolex watches. For the address of your nearest Rolex Jeweller, and for further information on the complete range of Rolex watches, write to: The Rolex Watch Company Limited, 5 St James Place, London W1N 0ER or telephone 0171-629 5671.

مکذا من رلاصل

Silenced Mrs Blair stars in Wirral test run for election

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

CHERIE BLAIR sparked yesterday in the role of party leader's wife when she joined her husband in Wirral South in a dress rehearsal for the general election. But it was a starring part with no lines.

Mrs Blair shook hands enthusiastically and was, in turns, sympathetic, concerned, inquiring and even flirtatious as she met doctors, nurses and patients on a tour of Arrowe Park Hospital in Upton, Merseyside.

The Labour Party eased her on to the electoral stage in a tightly managed attempt to woo voters before Thursday's poll and to counter the threat posed by Norma Major, the Prime Minister's vaunted "secret weapon".

With spin doctors at her shoulder, Mrs Blair was not allowed to fluff her lines on her first big day on the stump. She did not have any. To counter unwelcome comparisons with Hillary Clinton and jibes that she is behaving like

WIRRAL SOUTH

1992 general election: Barry Porter (C, 25,590); Helen Southworth (Lab, 17,407); Ed Cuniffe (LD, 6,581). Majority: 8,183.

a First Lady. Mrs Blair will not speak directly to the press, give interviews or make speeches during the general election campaign to come.

Instead Mrs Blair, who as Cherie Booth, QC, earns a six-figure salary, will join her husband "whenever her work commitments allow", where she will look good on his arm and carry on shaking hands and chatting while he peels off to deliver the sound-bite interviews. "She has seen what has happened to other politician's spouses," one aide said.

Arrowe Park, a bustling NHS hospital with 1,271 beds, was a carefully chosen venue for the kind of role she will be playing in the weeks to come. A caravan of party officials

and minders following Mr and Mrs Blair round the wards ensured that she was not questioned directly or ambushed by pressmen.

The visit was masterminded by Alastair Campbell, Mr Blair's chief press secretary, and his wife, Fiona Millar, Mrs Blair's press adviser. As soon as Mrs Blair spotted a notebook or camera she turned on her heels.

The Labour leader said: "She will be out with me at times during the general election campaign but it does not alter, in any way, the position she has taken. We are in politics — if you don't like the heat, you do not come into the kitchen. She has her own career and she is very happy with that. I am delighted to have her here."

In a reference to the photograph published last week of Mrs Blair caught off guard in a voluminous woollen jersey, he added: "I apologise for that jumper but I liked it."

It was Mr Blair's third visit to the Wirral South constitu-

ency. Yesterday he concentrated on the NHS, reflecting the concerns of voters in a recent opinion poll. His message was that there is a growing crisis in Wirral's hospitals with 6,000 patients on waiting lists and one in four patients waiting at least six months for treatment.

But Mrs Blair was steering clear of controversy. At one

point she turned to a porter wearing a T-shirt with the words "Portering services, Wirral Hospital" and told him flirtatiously: "You look handsome." "What, in a T shirt?" a bemused Peter Wilson replied.

While her husband was giving interviews, Mrs Blair sped off towards the hospital's league of friends shop, where

she asked pensioner volunteers about their work behind the sweet counter. Evelyn Baxter, one of the 101 volunteers, said afterwards: "She was very pleasant, not at all uppity. Some of these people are I relate to people as they are and she was very interested in what was going on."

In the playground of a children's ward, the Blairs presen-

ted a gift of a toddler's activity table. "Who's that touching my bottom?" asked Mrs Blair as she squatted to talk to one little girl playing with a toy car. The culprit was four-year-old Lee Abbot, who was pushing past the Labour leader's wife to get to the toy sweet shop. "It brings back memories for us," Mr Blair said.

Janet Hignett, 40, a secre-

tary, was told her red and yellow badge supporting Ben Chapman, Labour's candidate, was pretty. Meeting Mrs Blair was a bonus. "She is lovely," she said.

Aides made it clear that Mrs Blair had specially requested to accompany her husband. It gave her a chance to visit relatives on Merseyside, where she grew up.



Tony and Cherie Blair at Arrowe Park Hospital in Upton, Merseyside, yesterday on their visit to the Wirral South by-election campaign

Big rise in agency staff 'cuts quality of hospital care'

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

MOONLIGHTING doctors and nurses are increasingly being used to fill the gap left by staff shortages in NHS hospitals and to save money, medical organisations said yesterday.

New figures show that average spending by acute hospitals on agency staff rose 63 per cent in 1993-96 while total spending on all staff rose 10 per cent. The average acute hospital now spends £13 million a year on agency staff compared with £80,000 three years ago. Many of the agency staff are junior doctors and nurses with permanent jobs who work in their spare time to make ends meet.

The figures, set out in the *Financial Review of NHS Trusts* published yesterday, show that Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust increased its spending on agency staff by 200 per cent in 1993-96 compared with a 24 per cent increase in total staff costs.

The United Bristol Healthcare NHS Trust recorded a 105 per cent increase in agency staff costs compared with a 16 per cent rise in total spending on staff. King's Healthcare NHS Trust in London increased its agency staff bill by 30 per cent while the total

staff bill rose 42 per cent. John Spiers, chairman of the Patients' Association said: "This is a disturbing trend. Moonlighting staff equals half-cared-for patients. What we want is proper staffing in the NHS by up-to-date people with high morale and committed to their employer."

The Royal College of Nursing said the trend reflected the shortage of nurses. "Agency nurses should be used to fill gaps when staff are sick or on holiday. Now they are being used to fill permanent contracts. We are concerned because they should not be seen as a replacement for properly staffed wards."

Jan Baum of the Nightingale Nursing Bureau, a nurse employment agency, and chair of the Nursing Managers Forum at the Royal College of Nursing, said that commercial agencies could not meet the demand for nurses from NHS trusts. "We used to be the emergency service but now whole wards are staffed by temporary nurses. NHS trusts are spending a fortune trying to recruit staff. The Government won't accept that there is a general shortage of nurses. It has got to be bad for patients."

10% off.



BT cut 10% off calls to France.

5 minute weekend call to France	Before Feb. 19th	From Feb. 19th	Percentage Reduction	Price with Friends & Family and PremierLine
	£1.30	£1.17	10%	87.6p

The latest price cuts. Call 24hr. Freefone 0800 003 800 to see how much you could save. BT

SOME 100 PRICES UNCHANGED. DIRECT DIALLED CALLS ONLY. EXCLUDES BY PUBLIC PAYPHONE AND BY CHARGECARD CALLS. FRIENDS & FAMILY IS AVAILABLE ON ONE INTERNATIONAL NUMBER AND IS NOT AVAILABLE WITH THE LIGHT USER SCHEME. FRIENDS & FAMILY DISCOUNTS NORMALLY START WITHIN 14 DAYS. PREMIERLINE SUBSCRIPTION IS £6 PER QUARTER.



Qualify to teach in Secondary Schools through part-time study

Are you considering teaching as a career? Do you have a degree or are you about to get one? Then here is an established and award-winning programme from the Open University which leads to full recognition as a qualified teacher.

The Open University Postgraduate Certificate in Education has won a 1996 Queen's Anniversary prize for Higher and Further Education. The programme features:

- courses for secondary teaching in Mathematics, Science, Design and Technology, English, History, Music and French;
- part-time home-based study over eighteen months from February 1998 to July 1999, combined with three, four and six-week blocks of full-time experience in schools;
- courses include study guides, resource materials, video/audio cassettes and the use of information technology;
- support from an OU tutor and group study sessions;
- grants to cover the full course fees and special bursaries for certain courses.

Please return the coupon below for a copy of the PGCE prospectus.

Complete and send this coupon to: PG97C The Open University, PO Box 625, Milton Keynes MK1 1TY. ☐ Please send me your Postgraduate Certificate in Education prospectus (available early March).

Name

Address

Postcode

To save time call the Hotline 01908 365302

Internet: <http://www.open.ac.uk/OU/study.html>

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION & TRAINING OPEN TO ALL ADULTS

Home Office overcomes lawyers' doubts

Juries to see police videos of suspects' interviews

By RICHARD FORD AND FRANCES GIBB

VIDEOTAPES of police interviewing suspects are to be played in courts under government plans to provide greater protection for both the police and alleged criminals. The Home Office has overcome doubts within the Crown Prosecution Service and the Lord Chancellor's Department over using the tapes.

A pilot project will be doubled to involve at least eight forces. At present interviews are videotaped in some parts of Kent, the Metropolitan area, West Mercia and the West Midlands.

With costs of setting up the equipment nationally estimated at more than £100 million, it is likely to be years before routine videotaping of suspects under questioning is introduced to the 43 forces in England and Wales. The wider pilot project will take at least two years to complete and evaluate.

David Maclean, a minister at the Home Office, said that successful trials had also been carried out in Scotland. "It's only shown in court in those

cases where it adds some extra value. It's not done routinely.

"It's an extra safeguard for suspects, they find in Scotland. It's an extra safeguard for police officers as well. So I think it's a technology whose time has come."

Detective Chief Superintendent Peter Wilson, head of Lothian and Borders CID, said that the force had video cameras in 26 police stations and filmed 7,000 interviews a year. Only rarely were videos shown in court. That decision was taken by the Procurator Fiscal.

"In one case we had a suspect being asked about his denial of involvement in an incident. The police officer sits back and then you see the suspect wipe a tear from his eye, lay his head on the desk. He is crying. That can all be shown as evidence," he said.

The proposal was backed by the Labour Party, lawyers and the Association of Chief Police Officers. David Phillips, Chief Constable of Kent, said: "What is really important to a jury is to see wherever pos-

sible what really happened, rather than simply to have police officers' recollections."

Lawyers welcomed the scheme in the light of the growing use by police of confession evidence. Roger Ede, secretary of the Law Society's criminal law committee, said that the society, which represents 65,000 solicitors in England and Wales, was in favour of videotaping.

"We think the jury should have a complete picture of what takes place during an interview, although to achieve that it is essential that everyone in the interview room — including the suspect's lawyer and the second police officer — are also recorded," he said.

England and Wales were among the few places where people could still be convicted on the basis of uncorroborated confessions, he added. The use of confession evidence was on the increase.

"A senior police officer said recently that confessions were back in vogue as the principal means of obtaining evidence. So that brings even more into

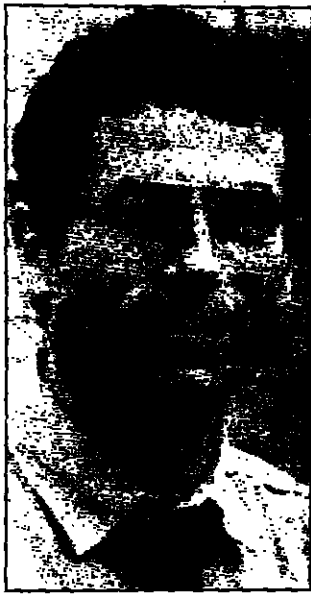
focus what happens in the interview room," Mr Ede said.

But some defence lawyers expressed concern. Jim Nicholl, solicitor for the Bridgewater Three, said that he was worried that the video would be used to show the body language of a defendant under questioning.

"I find that really quite disturbing," he said. "Quite often police officers will have a young suspect and say 'Oh, you think that's funny do you, why are you smiling?' Now really the young suspect is smiling because they're quite frightened and you get a nervous smile."

"What the suspect would be faced with is a very experienced police officer who would have worked out all the body-language questions in an attempt to implicate the suspect and a suspect who was very frightened with a solicitor or not with a solicitor. It would be quite wrong for those videos to be shown before a jury."

Law, page 35



Sex-swap GP makes debut at surgery as woman

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A FAMILY doctor who is to change sex held his first surgery dressed as a woman yesterday. Before his return to work, wearing a dark skirt-suit and orange blouse, Dr John Browne spoke of the distress caused to his wife and five children by his desire to become a woman.

The GP, who wrote to 15,000 patients asking them to call him Joanna, said: "The fact that this conflict existed was the cause of enormous upset for Shirley for the last five years." Mrs Browne has said that she feels like she has been bereaved.

Dr Browne, 46, said: "I was first aware I did not fit in when I was four, and I was referred to a specialist when I was 17. I sought consciously to emphasise my macho side because I thought it would make all the internal difficulties go away. This was why I took up male-oriented pursuits like rock-climbing, sports and building, to demonstrate to myself that the problem had gone away."

"Clearly that process included getting married and having children. Inevitably, the internal conflicts had not gone away. Increasingly, as the years went by, this was evident to myself and my wife. Our paths diverged and we realised the only way to resolve this conflict was to recognise that my female side was in conflict with the male side. The resolution was to change the male side."

Three years ago Dr Browne left the family home and moved a mile away. His wife lives with their children, aged 6 to 19. "I have a very high regard for Shirley and very great respect that she continues to be a mother of our children, and is successful as a full-time school teacher," he said.

"We remain supportive of



Dr Browne in his surgery yesterday and, top left, as he was before he asked to be known as Joanna

each other and good friends, which is important for the children. My greatest regret in all of this process is that it is a source of stress and upset for the children."

Dr Browne said he would continue to practise at St Bartholomew's medical centre, Oxford, because he owed it to his patients. Doctors of them had sent letters of support. "If they thought of me as caring and capable in the past, then one's physical appearance makes not the slightest difference to how the brain works," he said.

David Kenny, 40, a patient, said yesterday: "I'm not going

to let this change bother me. I thought I had problems but they're nothing compared with what he must have gone through. He's a good doctor and that's not going to change."

Dr Browne, who has been taking female hormones for two years, will have a £9,000 sex change operation, at his own expense, next month. He said: "I talk about John in the past. A person's appearance makes a fundamental difference to how one thinks of oneself. I will feel completely different about myself when I am in the correct body and have the correct appearance."

Catwalk queens turn out for Irish unknown

By GRACE BRADBERRY
STYLE EDITOR

NAOMI CAMPBELL and Helena Christensen led a roll call of top-name models appearing in the catwalk show of a little-known Irish designer on the second day of London Fashion Week.

On Sunday, Vivienne Westwood used unknown schoolgirls in her show, and the Italian designer Miuccia Prada's only supermodel was Stella Tennant. But the cast of Laine's show yesterday amounted to a who's who of the catwalk: Honor Fraser, Jodie Kidd, Sophie Dahl — granddaughter of Roald — Iris Palmer, and Chrysselle were among those on show.

Alexander McQueen's muse, Isabella Blow, was the stylist and the venue was the Cobden Club in Notting Hill, London's newest and most fashionable members-only club. The astonishing turnout for the knitwear designer was all down to connections. Ms Christensen, who prompted applause in an intricate gold crochet sheath dress said: "I'm a close friend of a friend of Laine's and I wanted to do her a favour so I flew in specially. I wear her sweaters and the dresses feel as if you're wearing air."

Ms Keogh is friends with the members of the band U2 and they gave her exclusive use of their new album, *Pop*, as the show's soundtrack. Ms Campbell, who was once engaged to U2 member Adam Clayton, was also appearing as a favour. She caused a storm in a barely-there green asymmetrical lace-trimmed dress.

Ms Keogh, who creates extremely intricate crochet and lacework sweaters and dresses, is based in Dublin. Her clothes, which draw on the colours of the Irish landscape, range from enormous woolly dresses to skin-tight, see-through creations.

The organisers of a major charity fashion show could not match Ms Keogh in securing the supermodels' services. In preference to the show in aid of Tommy's Campaign, the Great Ormond Street Hospital charity, Jerry Hall and Kate Moss opted to appear for Stella McCartney, daughter of Paul McCartney.

Earlier in the day, Honor Fraser had been the main name in the show of Owen Gaster, a 26-year-old designer known for his science-fiction style tailoring and skin-tight trousers. He produced a streamlined collection in greys and pinks, with a symmetrical tail to some of the jackets.

Photograph, page 1

Venice day trip recalled with sighs

PASSENGERS who took a day trip to Venice saw less of the glories of the city of canals than they had expected (Damian Whitworth writes). Their flying visit became precisely what when fog meant the plane was unable to land at its destination. The only time the aircraft touched the

ground during the seven-hour flight was when it stopped to refuel at an Italian military airport.

The Airjours trip from Birmingham was meant to include a sightseeing tour in gondolas. But instead the trippers returned home six hours earlier than expected and the

only landmarks they saw were mountain peaks as the jet circled above the Alps.

The passengers, who paid £139 each, said that modern communications systems should have stopped the jet taking off if Italy was shrouded in fog. They will receive a full refund.

A Fresher WAY OF Banking

Do you realise that your bank could be charging you up to 30 times more than Abbey National would for your overdraft?

If you're interested in saving money, take a closer

look at Abbey National and we think that you'll see we have a fresher view of banking. Low cost overdrafts are just

one of the features that save you money at Abbey National. What's more, so that the transfer from your old bank runs smoothly, new customers can enjoy an interest free overdraft for four months. If you're thinking of moving your account just pop into your nearest branch or call us for your free information pack and video,

	Approved Monthly Overdraft Fee	Approved Overdraft Rate APR	Cost of a £200 Authorised Overdraft for 5 days each month over a year
ABBEY NATIONAL	£0	11.9%	£3.70
BARCLAYS	£5	18.8%	£65.67
LLOYDS	£8	18.8%	£101.67
NAT WEST	£9	18.9%	£113.70
TSB	£6	18.8%	£77.67

*Source: The Research Department Ltd. All financial information is checked for accuracy on a weekly basis.

0800 375 375

www.abbeynational.co.uk

BANK account

Transfer assistance
No hidden charges
24 hour phone banking
Low Cost
Overdrafts
Direct Debit and Standing Orders
4 month 0% overdraft for new customers
Credit Interest Bonus
Over 11,400 branches nationwide

Telephone lines open 24 hours. Comparisons based on interest bearing current accounts. Rates may vary. Overdrafts and Multifunction cards are subject to status and are not available to persons under 18 years. Written quotations are available on request. After the initial interest free period, interest will be payable at the standard variable rate, currently 11.9% APR on authorised overdrafts. APR is variable. Overdrafts are only available to Abbey National Bank Account holders and are repayable at any time in accordance with our personal banking terms and conditions. Phone banking is only available to Abbeylink, Electron and Multifunction card holders. Abbey National and the Umbrella Couple Symbol are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

Paying over £250 for Car Insurance?



Call 0800 00 41 21
ServiceLine

مکذا من رلاهل

Scots are not a race apart, industrial tribunal decides

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

FOUR airline stewards who claimed British Airways discriminated against them because they were Scottish had their case thrown out yesterday.

An industrial tribunal in Glasgow ruled that the case could not proceed under race relations laws because Scots did not belong to a different ethnic race to the English.

The stewards had claimed that they were treated differently from their English colleagues during company reorganisation in September 1993, when they were transferred from cabin crew jobs in the Highlands and Islands Division of BA to mainline services based in London.

They said that their new positions took no account of their years of service in Scotland. In contrast, stewards moving from Manchester and Birmingham at the same time had their past records taken into account.

As a result Caroline Gray,

31, from Glasgow, Aileen Rowes, 41, from Houston, Dorothy McGowan, 42, from Elderslie, and Mark Boyce, 34, from Paisley, all near Glasgow, said that between them they had lost a total of 38 years' service, which drastically reduced their chances of promotion and placed them at the bottom of the seniority list for cabin staff. They are still employed by the airline.

Hugh Murphy, the tribunal chairman, ruled that BA had not discriminated against them on racial grounds because they were of the same racial group as those with whom they sought to compare themselves. A claim by BA that the complaint was time-expired was rejected.

At an earlier hearing in December, BA denied discrimination and said the case should not go ahead on two technicalities: that Scots and English shared the same ethnic origin, and that the complaints had been made outside

the three-month time limit. Bill Spiers, the solicitor representing the four cabin crew, said: "In my view it is patently obvious to everyone there is a separate Scots ethnic group with a separate Scots identity. Scots have a separate legal system, their own design, music, dance, cuisine, accent, use of language." The Scots were recognised as a separate ethnic group for sport and the Government placed signs at the border.

In a similar, unrelated case, a senior police officer in Scotland has claimed he was ignored for promotion because he is English.

A report is expected in the next few weeks on whether the industrial tribunal can examine the case of Graham Power, 49, the Yorkshire-born Deputy Chief Constable of Lothian and Borders. He alleges he was left off the shortlist for the position of Chief Constable of Northern Constabulary, in Inverness, because of his race.

Edwards's
RECEIPTS
OF
PASTRY
AND
COOKERY
For the Use of his Scholars.

It is to be had at his School in
Queen Street near St Thomas Apolides
in the Afternoon.

Also
in the Afternoon
at his School in
Turner's Lane in the City.

Royal Cookery; or, the Complete
Connoisseur
CONTAINING THE
Choicest Receipts
In all the particular Branches of
COOKERY,
Now in Use in the Queen's
PALACES

St. James's, Hampton Court, and
Kew Palace, &c.

By PATRICK LAMB, Esq.
Now in Use in the Queen's
Palaces, &c.

THE
Country Housewife
AND
LADY'S DIRECTOR.

IN THE
Management of a House, and the
Delights and Profits of a Farm.

CONTAINING
Instructions for managing the Kitchen,
and the making of Wines of all sorts.

Directions for the Dairy, in the Improvement
of Butter and Cheese upon the work of Salt;
the making and making of Butter, and the
making of Cheese, and the making of other
delicious Dishes, in a Country Seat, in the
most elegant manner for the Table.

By R. BRADLEY.
Now in Use in the Queen's
Palaces, &c.

Mouthwatering sale cooked up for recipe buffs

BY ROBIN YOUNG

CHEFS have the chance to acquire the means to recreate their predecessors' greatest dishes when a collection of historic cook books is auctioned at Sotheby's in April.

The collection of 100 books includes first editions of some of the earliest

cook books in existence, as well as handwritten family recipe books handed down for generations. The recipes range from dishes fit for kings through to cures for "bedtick fever in children", the medieval equivalent of hyperactivity.

The books include *Royal Cookery* by Patrick Lamb, who was master

cook at St James's, Hampton Court and Windsor, serving monarchs from Charles II to Queen Anne, for almost half a century. His book, published in 1710 and expected to fetch up to £900, includes 35 different engraved bills of fare, many for the Royal Family, and including "hash'd carps, bisque of pigeons, lamb-pye,

sucking rabbits, butter'd crab with smelts fry'd and rock of snow and sabbubs".

A second edition of Coelius Apicius's *De re coquinaria*, published in Venice around 1500, is expected to fetch up to £4,000. The whole collection should raise £40,000 for the vendor, a private collector.

"Prudential PEPs In hand revenue, rather than Inland Revenue."

Are your savings in a building society deposit account? If you're a taxpayer, you're probably paying at least 20% tax on the interest. But, there is another way. With a PEP, the Inland Revenue don't touch it.

Moreover, PEPs give you the opportunity for better growth than building societies. If you'd bought one five years ago, it

would have outperformed a typical savings account by as much as three times.

To find out more about PEPs, talk to your Prudential Financial Consultant, see your Independent Financial Adviser or ring us on 0800 25 25 00 for our free guide.

It's a good read and it could lead to a good investment.

PRUDENTIAL

Princely praises help to cross gulf in conversation

BY ALAN HAMILTON

THE Prince of Wales yesterday sang the praises of his remarkable grandmother as he met the Emir of Bahrain on the second leg of his trade-promoting tour of Gulf states.

In one of those formal welcomes, when conversation is in danger of becoming stilted or falling altogether, the Prince spoke to his host with enthusiasm and obvious pride about Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

"My grandmother is extraordinary; she'll be 97 in August," he told Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa on his arrival in the kingdom on board the Royal Yacht *Britannia*, making her last major voyage before retirement. "The operation on my grandmother's hip has revolutionised her. Now she's back to Scottish dancing again; you couldn't stop her," the Prince enthused. "She's phenomenal, but thank goodness because she is a very special person."

The Emir, however, appeared more interested in the fate of *Britannia*, which cut a fine dash as she steamed majestically through the clear waters of the Gulf on her first visit to Bahrain in 18 years, and undoubtedly her last. The ruler expressed his surprise to the Prince that Britain should want to give up the yacht; he is said to be privately aghast at the decision to retire her later this year. There was no suggestion, however, that he had put in an offer.

The Prince and the Emir

then made suitably comfortable noises about Britain's relationship with Bahrain, poorest of the Gulf states but a major Middle East banking and financial centre.

As they sat together in a sumptuous circular powder-blue room in the headquarters of the Council of Ministers in Manama, the Bahraini capital, the Emir said: "We are very proud of our friendship with the British." The Prince replied: "We value it greatly."

Manfully, the two men kept the conversation going for the benefit of the attendant press. "We like to be close to each other to talk frankly," the Emir said of his guest seated beside him. The Prince countered with: "I'm always able to do that with the Crown Prince; I enjoy my telephone conversations."

The Prince has formed a close and long-lasting friendship with Crown Prince Shaikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, eldest son of the Emir, who had earlier greeted his guest at the foot of *Britannia's* gangplank.

The Prince spent the weekend on a trade mission in Kuwait, and today is in the tiny state of Qatar. From the oil wealth of the Gulf he will fly on Wednesday to the sharply contrasting poverty of Bangladesh. He will see aid work being carried out by Actionaid, a British organisation, and will visit the district of Sylhet, from where a large proportion of Britain's Bangladeshi community hails.

Quick steps to a healthy old age

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE over-50s will be urged today to follow the Queen Mother's example and get out of their armchairs and on to the dance floor. Forty per cent of men and women over 50 spend most of the day sitting around, usually watching television, according to the Health Education Authority.

Earlier advice to exercise vigorously three times a week has been dropped. Instead, the campaign to be launched today will seek to persuade the elderly and middle-aged to spend 30 minutes a day walking the dog, gardening, cycling or dancing.

Experts believe that a gentler regime based on everyday activities will have wider appeal. Those who manage to switch off the television may, however, have difficulty leaving their armchair: a quarter

of women aged 70 to 74 did not have sufficient strength in their legs to get out of a chair without using their arms. The research was based on a survey of 4,300 people in England aged 50 to 74.

Nick Cavill, the authority's physical activity manager, said: "These figures are worrying and have led us to target our Active for Life campaign at middle-aged and older people."

"We are encouraging them to take part daily in anything that makes them feel warm, and breathe more heavily than usual."

The young are also leading increasingly sedentary lives. Nearly 20 per cent of 16 to 24 year olds spend less than 30 minutes a week in "moderately intense" physical activity, according to the authority.

Feeling positive, well-balanced and happy?

Call The Samaritans.

We need more volunteers now. Call 0990 62 72 82.

The Samaritans

PRU 272
Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of units, and the income from them may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed, and the investor may not get back the amount they invested. Changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of the investment to fluctuate or increase. The above is based upon our understanding of current taxation, legislation, and Inland Revenue practice, all of which are liable to change. The fees and costs of any advice from us may change. Your advice depends on individual circumstances. We are not responsible for any loss or damage to your capital or income and assets. Prudential is a trading name of Prudential Unit Trusts Limited which is an authorised person whose conduct of investment business is regulated by CIL and SIB. The company is registered in England and Wales under number 1796128. Registered Office at 141 Holborn Lane, London EC1N 2HT. For your protection calls may be recorded. *Source: Macrop.

Mass-market authors dispute Church dogmas

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

NEW books for the mass market by revisionist theologians are challenging traditional Christian beliefs. Two rival views being published in the run-up to Easter claim to prove that the apostle Paul invented Christianity and that Jesus's brother James has been written out of the Gospels in spite of being the Church's most important early leader.

Next month a controversial book will challenge the orthodox Roman Catholic view that Jesus was the only son of Mary by presenting the disciple James as his full brother and the true successor to Jesus.

In *James the Brother of Jesus*, a 1,000-page examination of the disciple's role in the foundation of Christianity, the Dead Sea scrolls scholar Robert Eisenman also argues that Jesus had other siblings but that James was the most important "Christian" of all. He argues that James was the overarching leader of the early Church to whom the apostles Peter and Paul both owed

their allegiance. Eisenman draws on the scrolls and early church texts to challenge orthodoxy and to promote James, not Peter, as the true successor to Jesus.

While leading New Testament scholars have long held similar views, many Christians in the pews remain unaware that Jesus had brothers or that James even existed. Orthodox tradition explains away biblical references to Jesus's brothers by claiming they are cousins.

Eisenman says that James has effectively been "written out" of the Gospels by the authors but that he has been extensively documented in a host of other early texts. He argues that the Christianity of James was apocalyptic, nationalistic and xenophobic, compared to Paul's more cosmopolitan approach, which was eventually adopted by Christendom.

Jamesian Christianity, he says, included vegetarianism, daily bathing and abstinence from blood, including Christ's "blood" in the Eucharist. The



Wilson: claims St Paul invented Christianity

New Testament is one of the most successful rewrites of history, Eisenman argues.

A spokesman for the Catholic Church said: "The Church believes that Mary had only one son and that was Jesus. We believe he had cousins but no siblings."

However, Dr Tom Deidun, a Catholic scholar who teaches the New Testament at London University's Heythrop College, said that Eisenman's

thesis was supported by most New Testament scholars. "It was the view of St Jerome in the 4th century that Jesus's brothers were his cousins, but Jerome was opposed by Helvidius, who took a similar view to that expressed in this book."

In a book published yesterday, *Paul, the Mind of the Apostle*, the novelist A. N. Wilson argues that Jesus was a visionary Jewish leader who had no intention of founding a separate religion. He argues that Christianity owes its existence to Paul, whose vision on the road to Damascus led him to claim a new covenant and to put forward a view of Christ as Saviour and the Cross as the gateway to salvation.

This has already aroused considerable controversy. Dr Tom Wright, the Dean of Lichfield, was so concerned when he saw a copy of Wilson's manuscript that he has rushed into print with *What Saint Paul Really Said*, a strong counterattack on Wilson which defends the orthodox view of Paul as the faithful interpreter of Christ.



The Rev Toddy Hoare with his nude sculpture of Mary Magdalene, based on a Modigliani drawing

Mary Magdalene was first apostle, says sculptor-vicar

By PAUL WILKINSON

A COUNTRY vicar has created a nude sculpture to further his claim that the first apostle was a woman. The Rev Toddy Hoare believes that Mary Magdalene should be canonised and says the Bible backs up his argument that the woman whom most Christians believe was a prostitute received a bad press in the Gospels.

Mr Hoare, 49, who runs eight parishes around Thirsk in North Yorkshire, said: "Mary was actually the first person to see the Lord after His resurrection, to speak to Him and to be sent by Him to preach his word. That is the definition of an apostle."

His sculpture, *St Mary Magdalene: The First Apostle*, will be shown at a month-long exhibition of his work at St Mary's, Nottingham, from March 29.

Conventional theology considers Mary Magdalene a whore who was forgiven and saved by Jesus. Mr Hoare suggests the "woman who was a sinner", as she is described in the Bible, who

washed Jesus's feet for forgiveness, was a different woman. He said many women "adored" Jesus by washing his feet and it was simply a sign of humility. He added: "There is no Gospel evidence that she was a prostitute."

The Venerable George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said: "This is a fashionable American feminist concept, the idea being that she is not a prostitute, but a woman being commanded by a patriarchal society. But she was not the first apostle, she was the first witness, and Jesus appears to her because she was a sinner who was saved. Toddy Hoare is a good sculptor but he is wrong on theology."

The sculpture, based on a 1906 drawing by Modigliani, has been carved on a concrete panel in a studio adjoining the vicarage at Knayton. His model was a parishioner.

Mr Hoare has courted controversy before, carving panels of eight disciples, also naked. "We are all naked before God," he said.

'At-risk' baby was thrown 150ft to death by mother

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A BABY on an "at-risk" register was thrown to his death by his mentally ill mother after social services decided she was fit to care for him, a court was told yesterday. Daniel Whayman, aged 16 weeks, died after his mother, Lisa, 33, threw him from the 150ft Orwell Bridge near Ipswich.

Whayman, who had had psychiatric problems since the age of 14, was ordered to be detained indefinitely in a mental hospital by a judge at Norwich Crown Court. Her plea of not guilty to murder, but guilty to manslaughter, was accepted.

The court was told that Whayman had schizophrenia but the condition had been diagnosed only after the baby's death. Previously psychiatrists had concluded that she had a personality disorder.

Daniel was put on an at-risk register at birth last May and soon afterwards went to live with his maternal grandparents, Ken and Marie Eley. Suffolk social services decided he should be returned to Whayman and her husband on August 30.

The prosecution said that Whayman, from Worlingworth, Suffolk, felt pressured by the thought of having to care for Daniel again. The

day before he was due to return, she visited her mother's home and was left alone with Daniel.

She took a taxi to the bridge, where the driver was reluctant to leave her because she appeared distressed.

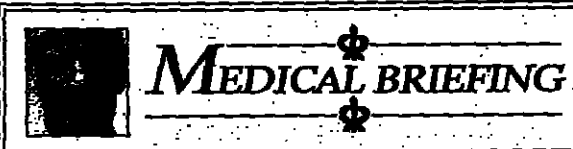
Debbie Stanford, a teacher from Felixstowe, saw Whayman throw the baby from the bridge. "I thought it was a doll. She lugged him over like a carrier bag of rubbish," Daniel landed on the grassy riverbank alive but was pronounced dead in hospital an hour later.

Suffolk social services said Daniel had been placed on the at-risk register after Whayman's GP expressed concern that she would have difficulty coping with the baby. He went to live with his grandparents to allow Whayman and her husband deal with difficulties in their relationship.

Social services decided to let Daniel return to his parents. "At no point did Lisa ever abuse or neglect that child," a spokeswoman said. "He was well looked after."

Mr Justice Wright said: "This was a terrible and tragic event. No one can be in any doubt that a mother who commits an act of unlawfully killing her own child must be in serious need of help."

Pesticides may play role in Parkinson's



Dr Thomas Stuttaford

DENG XIAOPING's death was certified as being a result of a chest infection complicating long-standing Parkinson's disease. At 92, Deng had survived to an age when degenerative conditions of the mind and body are the rule rather than the exception, but his case illustrates the difficulties doctors have in plotting the epidemiology of disease.

Parkinson's disease seems to be becoming more common. Whether this increase in incidence is real is still uncertain. Treatment has so improved that anyone with early signs is now likely to have therapy that will enable them to live longer than would have been the case 30 years ago.

There are also those who doubt if Parkinson's is more common and suggest that it is merely diagnosed more often as doctors become aware of its

symptoms. Dr Christopher Hawkes, of the Department of Neurology at Leeds General Infirmary, has written a review in the *British Journal of Hospital Medicine* of the factors that may determine if there is an hereditary aspect to Parkinson's disease.

There are, undoubtedly, families in which Parkinson's has attacked generation after generation but such families are rare and even twin studies have not given conclusive evidence of the genetic factor. In the 1980s, the theory that an environmental agent was a likely cause was widely held. Since then, the opinion that the disease may be inherited has gained support.

The opinion favouring an inherited cause for Parkinson's is now being subtly modified and it is suggested that people inherit a tendency to develop the condition, and not the disease. It is proposed that there may well be environmental agents responsible in inducing Parkinson's in those with an inherited vulnerability.

The proposition, which receives some support from Dr Hawkes's review, is that the likely agents will be found to be toxic chemicals, and may be pesticides that are an essential part of agriculture.

Cheaper car insurance

ADMIRAL

0800 600 800

If you want more you can always pay less.

Was £1,200 + VAT
(£1,410)

Now
£899 + VAT
(£1,057)



Compaq Deskpro 2000 5133 M1620
133-MHz Intel Pentium® processor, 16-MB memory, 256KB cache
1.6GB S.M.A.R.T. hard drive with Fault Management
Microsoft® Windows 95 or Windows 3.1 pre-installed
Compaq 140 14" SVGA monitor
Compaq AssetControl via Insight Manager, Comprehensive System security.

Right across the range, all Deskpro PCs have huge price reductions of up to 24%. What's more, until the end of April our special promotion prices mean you will pay even less for any Deskpro 2000 with a Compaq 140 or V50 monitor. This means if you're a growing business your budgets will now stretch to faster processors and larger hard drives. Not to mention even lower long term costs of PC ownership. All this comes from the number one brand in the UK for deskbased PCs.* To take advantage of this offer contact your reseller or for promotion details send off the coupon or call us between 8.30am and 8pm (9am-5pm at weekends).

OFFER ENDS 30TH APRIL Tel: 0990 50 00 20

COMPAQ COSTS YOU LESS THAN CHEAPER COMPUTERS

*Offer closes 30.4.97. Offer valid while stocks last at participating resellers. Prices quoted are Compaq recommended prices. Actual savings may vary. Photograph shows 15" monitor; price quoted refers to specification description only. The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. *Source: Market Research Agency IDC.

COMPAQ

هكذا من رايهم

Former Zimbabwe President accused of policeman's rape

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

HE Rev Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe's first President, as a predatory homosexual who forced a young aide-de-camp to submit to repeated rape and sexual abuse, according to evidence disclosed here in a trial.

Jeffa Dube, 36, has told the Harare High Court that the churchman, statesman, theologian and author had used ruses, threats and imprisonment to terrorise him into an extended ordeal of deep kissing, watching gay pornographic films and oral and anal sex at State House, the official presidential residence from 1983 to 1985.

The policeman, a former ardent with three O-levels, as been tried for shooting and another officer who united him for being "Banana's homosexual wife" in 1985. He claimed he was sexually distraught as a result of his experience, and did not know what he was doing when he shot Patrick Mashiri in the head.

The evidence became public yesterday when Judge David Arlett lifted reporting restrictions imposed when the trial began last August. He said he found the policeman's evidence credible, as was the testimony of the witnesses who supported his claims. The legations of the former Presi-

dent's homosexual abuse "must be accepted as if they were true", he said.

The court was told that Mr Banana had spotted Dube playing for the police football team, the Black Mambas, in late 1983, and invited him to apply for the job of aide-de-camp. Police headquarters had nothing to do with his selection.

Dube was found guilty of murder with actual intent, but with diminished responsibility, and was sentenced to ten years in jail. The judge urged authorities to investigate the accusations against the former head of state.

There are serious implications for the Government of President Mugabe, who for the past two years has maintained vehement anti-gay rhetoric, reviling homosexuality as



Banana: theologian

a perversion imported from the West.

Evidence in the trial made it clear, however, that the senior echelons of the ruling Zanu (PF) party and of the security services were aware of Mr Banana's abuse of state power. Dube's evidence gave details of how a police commissioner and a deputy commissioner colluded in intimidating him into succumbing to the former head of state.

Dube wept as he told the court that the former President's overt advances began within a week of him starting his job, and that he resisted them for six months, until in June 1984, when he collapsed in the presidential office after being given an apparently "doctored" soft drink by Mr Banana.

He said he awoke before dawn on the carpet, without his trousers or underpants. Mr Banana was standing over him, smiling, and said: "We have helped ourselves."

Mr Banana is a pillar of respectability at home and abroad. In 1989 he served on a United Nations commission of "eminent churchmen" investigating international business in South Africa, and two years ago was the Organisation of African Unity's "eminent person" attempting to intervene in the wars in Liberia and Sierra Leone.



Taliban advancing yesterday on the Shibar Pass where it claims new successes

Moscow sending arms to Afghans

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MAZAR-I-SHARIF

RUSSIA is supplying arms to northern Afghanistan, its second military intervention in 18 years, to bolster defences against the extremist Taliban Islamic militia as it battles to reach Central Asia. A spring offensive by the fighters, who control two-thirds of the country, looks inevitable.

International competition for influence in the region is unprecedented. Iran has joined Russia in aiding the northern forces, while Saudi Arabia is directly or indirectly funding Taliban with the tacit support of the US.

This competition is principally economic. Central Asia contains some of the world's last big unexploited reserves. Delta Oil of Saudi Arabia and Unocal of California have signed a deal in principle to build a gas and oil pipeline from Turkmenistan to the Indian Ocean via Afghanistan and Pakistan.

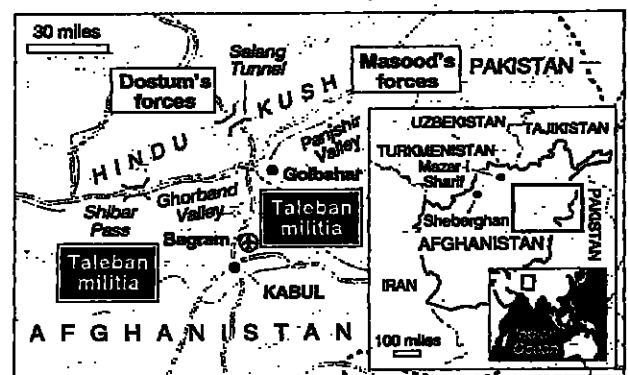
That would undermine Iran's oil industry and reduce its regional influence. Russia opposes the pipeline because it

would increase Western influence. Moscow is also concerned about the spread of Islamic fundamentalism.

General Abdul Khashid Dostum, the northern leader, told *The Times* at his military headquarters in Mazar-i-Sharif he believed Russia would send more troops to the border if Taliban encroached. But he was adamant that Russian forces would not cross into Afghanistan. "Never, never, we would not allow it." He denied that his 40,000-man army received Russian arms, although clearly it does.

Iran backs Taliban's rivals in order to protect the Shia minority — perhaps 10 per cent of the population — and because it fears US and Pakistani influence could turn Afghanistan into a centre of armed Iranian opposition.

□ **Fighters' claim:** Taliban captured the strategic Shibar Pass in Baniyan province, northwest of Kabul, the Voice of Shariat radio said. The pass is regarded as a gateway to north Afghanistan. (Reuters)



WORLD SUMMARY

Call for looser Rock ties

Gibraltar: Sir Richard Luce, the former Foreign Office minister and Gibraltar's first civilian Governor since the British capture of the Rock in 1704, received a warm personal welcome yesterday but was greeted by demands from the local parliament to support a process of decolonisation for the dependency (Dominique Searle writes).

Peter Caruana, the Chief Minister, said links with Britain should be modernised on the lines of the Channel Islands. He also called for better relations with Spain.

Kenya riots after student's death

Nairobi: Kenyan students rampaged through the capital in protest at the death of a union activist, leaving burnt-out cars and streets blocked with rocks (Sam Kiley writes). Hundreds of students converged on State House, home of President Moi, the Nairobi parliament buildings and police headquarters after alleged police involvement in the death of Solomon Muriuki, who was killed by an explosion and fire in his room on the university campus.

Boris Becker 'in tax inquiry'

Bonn: German tax investigators have turned their attention to Boris Becker, the tennis star. *Der Spiegel* magazine said (Roger Boyes writes). Unlike the case involving Peter Graf, father of Steffi, Herr Becker is officially resident in Monte Carlo, not in Germany, and is therefore subject only to taxation on prize money and advertising revenue directly earned in Germany.

Vandals attack Lincoln tomb

New York: Vandals painted swastikas and smeared human waste over the tomb of Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois (Quentin Letts writes). It was the third such attack in ten years and was described by police as "mindless vandalism". Black bin liners were draped around the white tomb to conceal the graffiti.

Stalker called Rabanne 'Satan'

Paris: A woman who stalked Paco Rabanne, the Spanish fashion designer, for more than three years, accusing him of being "Satan", was given a year's suspended jail sentence and put on probation. Josiane Pasquier, 50, claimed that she taunted her by telepathy when she ate chocolate.

Weizman's British visit renews links

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

EZER WEIZMAN, the swashbuckling former RAF fighter pilot who today becomes the first Israeli President to make a state visit to London, has many links with Britain beyond his distinguished wartime service.

His wife Reuma, who will accompany him, was born in London and his uncle, Chaim Weizmann, the first of Israel's seven Presidents, spent time in Manchester.

The Weizmann family emigrated from Russia, but the current President, now aged 72, was born in Tel Aviv. Explaining the difference in spellings of the family surname, he joked: "My father decided one 'n' was good enough for us."

Along with his late brother-in-law, Moshe Dayan, Mr Weizman is regarded as a charismatic fighter-politician. A hawk turned dove, he became the first Israeli Cabinet member to make open

contact with the then-outlawed Palestine Liberation Organisation. In the Six Day War, he laid the plans that led to the destruction of the Egyptian Air Force on the ground.

Friends say that his conversion to the peace camp came in 1970 when his son Shaul, a paratrooper, was severely injured in the Sinai campaign. He later died in a traffic accident.

Recently, he personally visited the families of each of the 73 soldiers killed when two helicopters crashed.

Mr Weizman has never been able, or much bothered, to curb his tongue. When he was castigated for contacting the PLO he replied: "We have one of the best air forces in the world and a good little army. When people say that the PLO wants to destroy us, I piddle myself with laughter."

Leading article, page 17



3 YEARS FREE INSURANCE,
3 YEARS FREE SERVICING,
3 YEARS FREE WARRANTY AND
3 YEARS FREE TOTAL AA COVER.

When you order any new Daewoo we'll
give you a 3 year comprehensive

warranty, 3 years free servicing, 3 years

Daewoo Total AA Cover and now,

3 years free comprehensive insurance.

As standard. This means you

won't have any unexpected costs for

three years. For instance, when your car

needs servicing, all parts and labour

are covered. You don't even have to worry about

finding a good insurance quote. You're covered

for three years. To give you all this you may

think we've had to skimp in other areas.

Far from it. Just read the Daewoo manifesto

to see what you get as standard on

every Daewoo. The 3, 4 and 5 door Nexia

and the Espero saloon range

from just £9,445 to £13,735. No

wonder owning a Daewoo is

such a smart thing to do. For

more information on Daewoo, or

to find your nearest Daewoo

showroom, call us free on

0800 666 222. Or write

to Daewoo Cars Ltd.

FREEPOST, PO Box 401,

Kent BR5 1BR.



DAEWOO MANIFESTO

1. We deal direct

More for your money as standard on every Daewoo model.

Electronic ABS	Side impact protection
Driver's airbag	Metallic paint
Power steering	Mobile phone
Engine immobiliser	
Security glass etching	

2. Hassle free buying

No salesmen on commission	Number plates included
Fixed pricing	Full tank of fuel
No hidden charges	12 months road tax included
Delivery included	

3. Complete peace of mind

3 year/60,000 mile comprehensive warranty
3 year/60,000 mile free servicing including parts and labour
3 years free comprehensive insurance. Subject to status.
3 year Daewoo Total AA Cover
6 year anti-rust warranty
30 day/1,000 mile money back or exchange guarantee

4. Courtesy servicing

Free courtesy car offered
Pick up and return of your car (Mainland UK only)

No headaches for 3 years?

That'll be the

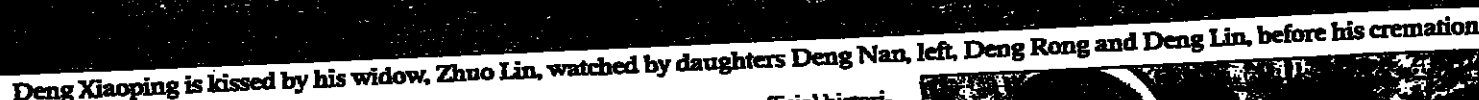
Daewoo

driver.

1500 cc

100,000 public mourners drafted in by regime for Deng's Beijing farewell

as paper. "Scatter hot tears
Comrade Deng Xiaoping



The People's Liberation Army garrison has been making great efforts to make a good impression. The garrison will number 10,000, about the size of the British force until three years ago when the withdrawal began and which has now been reduced to 1,500. Eventually it is supposed the Chinese force will be reduced to 5,000 troops in Hong Kong, with 5,000 in Shenzhen.

[illegible]

Executive Outcome
been involved in "training
armies of Angola and
Leone and helped to
tide of civil wars in
countries. Military op
in Angola and Sierra
have, subsequently
stored up

Mourners on the route of the funeral motorcade

Police un...
plot to a...
Spanis...

Kohl fight...
with talks...

The Empire State gunman 'had lost life savings in US'

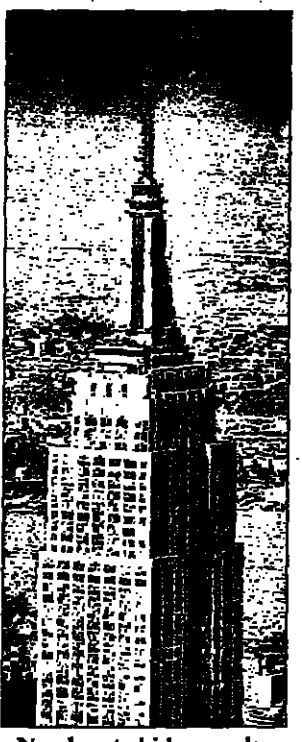
FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

HE gunman who shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York was a 29-year-old Palestinian Engineer, a man with no apparent political motivations but simply a troubled mind and a desperately acquired, fully loaded handgun.

Fathiya Abu Kamal, 55, said her husband, Ali Abu Kamal, had cheated out of savings of about \$800,000 (£300,000) after he arrived in the United States last December seeking a job. She said she had lost her life savings in the process.

The Empire State Building was closed to tourists yesterday while police continued their investigation into Sunday's shooting. In which a 29-year-old Palestinian Engineer, a man with no apparent political motivations but simply a troubled mind and a desperately acquired, fully loaded handgun, shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York.

The gunman, who was carrying a handgun, shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York. The gunman, who was carrying a handgun, shot seven people at the Empire State Building in New York.



No place to hide: murder in heart of Manhattan

and rail terminals, airports, tunnels and bridges.

The shooting incident left six people wounded, three in a critical condition. Numerous others suffered minor injuries in the scramble to escape down the narrow staircase. The incident took place at 5.05pm as the area was beginning to clear.

Earlier, Kamal had been in a state of excitement, pointing out sights to fellow visitors and trying to make conversation. "You from Egypt?" he asked people. "Alexandria?"

The viewing deck, scene of so many romantic interludes, including the film *An Affair to Remember* and *Sleepless in Seattle*, was turned into a scene of carnage.

David Robinson, a Briton from Stafford, said: "I thought I heard a firecracker. Then everybody just split in panic. I ran into the souvenir shop. Two guys who had been shot were in there, asking for help."

For Mr Robinson, who had gone straight to the Empire State after arriving on the afternoon flight from Britain, it was a brutal introduction to a New York he had presumed existed only in the movies. "People couldn't believe what was happening. I was very lucky because I was by the stairs and I just ran out of the door."

Nick O'Brien, 28, from Long Island, compared the reaction of the public to "a stampede —



An injured tourist is taken away from the New York landmark for treatment after the shooting in which one person died

like a herd of cattle". Babies were dropped and trampled on in the mêlée.

Kamal, who was carrying travel documents which identified his home town as Ramallah, died six hours after being taken to nearby Bellevue Hospital. Stef Nys, 36, a Belgian witness of the shootings, said that Kamal turned the gun on himself at the end. "He had a hole in his right temple," Mr Nys said.

Rudolph Giuliani, the Mayor of New York, rushed to the scene from a wedding he was conducting and insisted that the incident was a one-off.

totally at odds with New York's recent drop in crime. Mr Giuliani is well aware that for all the good he and his police have done in recent years, images of the shooting will go around the world and may harm New York's annual \$12 billion (£7.45 billion) tourist business.

Questions were asked about security arrangements at the Empire State Building, which receives about three million visitors a year. After the World Trade Centre bomb, metal detectors and security checks were introduced at the Empire State but they were soon

dropped after complaints from visitors and staff. A security camera recorded the gunman entering the building. "He had a long coat and the gun was under it," said a spokesman. "You couldn't see it."

The Empire State Building is controlled by the controversial businessman Leonora Helmsley, who appeared eager to make the best of the misfortune by announcing that, in a departure from her legendary misanthropy, she would pay for relations of the wounded to be flown to New York and accommodated.



Kamal: charmed to visitors before opening fire

Kennedy lobbies to keep sister in Dublin

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SENATOR Edward Kennedy, apparently angered by British reports of his sister's swift demise as US Ambassador to Ireland, has lobbied President Clinton to extend her tour in Dublin.

Mr Kennedy was reportedly spotted at a Democratic function in the White House earlier this month where he cornered the President and asked to discuss the question of Jean Kennedy Smith staying in Ireland. The discussion followed a directive from the White House to all non-career diplomats which demanded that they step down after three years. It also came after a Times report, denied by the White House and the State Department, that Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, intended to cut short Mrs Kennedy Smith's tenure as part of a shift in policy on Ireland.

Although the directive stated that non-career diplomats, 25 per cent of the American service, should leave at the end of June, Mrs Kennedy Smith is not expected to be replaced before the end of the year.

The White House would not confirm yesterday that Mr Kennedy had discussed the issue with Mr Clinton. "The President is very happy with her performance and she will be staying as long as she wants her," one official said.

The most public reason for keeping her in place is the British election. With the possibility of a Labour government, the White House wants to retain continuity for peace talks. However, British reports, believed to have spurred a meeting between Ms Albright and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, appear to have resonated strongly in the Irish-American community.

Mr Kennedy's office declined to comment yesterday but diplomats in Washington said the veteran senator was unhappy with any suggestion of a shift in policy by the Administration. Mrs Kennedy Smith is said to want to remain next year and the success or failure of her brother's lobbying will be made clearly visible by any date for her departure.

Albright pursued for 'denying past'

BY QUENTIN LETTS

WHILE Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, tours the globe meeting world leaders, her reputation in America has continued to take an extraordinary beating over her family history.

Ms Albright's recent arrival in office coincided with reports that she was of Jewish descent and had "failed" to acknowledge the fact that her parents, after leaving Prague in the 1930s, had converted from Judaism to Roman Catholicism.

What in Britain might have been a 24-hour story has been dragged out day after day, mainly by Jewish commentators in

the American press. The tone of the arguments have ranged from the pious to the downright abusive, with correspondents and polemicists generally attacking Ms Albright for alleged betrayal of her "Jewishness".

An initial flurry of excitement among Jews that the new steward of US foreign policy was one of their own soon faded when reports questioned just how much Ms Albright had known. In New York, which has the biggest Jewish population outside Israel, Ms Albright's name is now commonly uttered with distaste. Correspondence columns of the city's newspapers have carried numerous assaults on her motives in allegedly smudging her

background. The words "betrayal" and "denial" have been linked to her name, and a cartoon showed her burying her Jewish identity in a mass grave.

Ms Albright herself has said that she has "nothing to hide" and maintains that her parents did not tell her that they were Jewish, or that her grandparents died in Nazi concentration camps. In the past she received letters from Czech officials about her family's history, but she says that she did not pay them much attention.

Of her maiden name, Korbel, people have asked her: "Did you not realise it was a Jewish name?" She has replied that she had been told it was an old Czech word for a drinking cup.

Gates reaps a smaller fortune

BY QUENTIN LETTS

THE fortune of Bill Gates, the boss of the American software giant Microsoft, which earlier this month was said to be possibly the greatest in the history of mankind, ranks only 31st in a newly-published league table of American wealth.

Two East Coast analysts took the individual fortunes of the richest Americans since the country's revolution and compared the figures to the gross national product of the

day. Richest, by far, was the oilman John D Rockefeller, whose \$1.4 billion at the time of his death equalled 1/65th of the gross national product. Closest to him was Cornelius Vanderbilt, the four-mouthed Dutch-descended shipping magnate of the 19th century, who had 1/87th of the GNP when he died.

Mr Gates, say the authors Michael Klepper and Robert Gunther, has the equivalent of 1/425th of America's GNP. Admittedly, the figures were compiled before his latest

sprint on the bullish New York stock market.

Top 10 richest Americans:

- 1 J D Rockefeller...d.1937, oil
- 2 C Vanderbilt...d.1877, ships
- 3 J J Astor...d.1948, fur/land
- 4 S Girard...d.1831, banking
- 5 A Carnegie...d.1919, steel
- 6 A T Stewart...d.1876, retail
- 7 F Weyerhaeuser...d.1914, timber
- 8 J Gould...d.1892, finance
- 9 S Van Rensselaer...d.1839, land
- 10 M Field...d.1906, retail/land

*The Wealthy 100 by Michael Klepper and Robert Gunther (Citadel Press).

I want more flexible communications

I want to send information faster

I want to reduce my bills

ISDN

From as little as £199* to set up

BT's ISDN service can help give your business a competitive edge, enabling you to access the Internet, send and receive information, e-mail, and do so much more. And with its twin digital lines you can perform any of these tasks at the same time. Because it's digital, ISDN sends information up to four times faster than an ordinary telephone line, and because calls are charged at the same rate, this means much cheaper call bills for your business.

Call BT Businessconnections on Freephone 0800 800 800.

Freefone 0800 800 800

Work smarter not just harder

ISDN

BT

Power plants at popular prices

£1079

Fujitsu ErgoPro 486/133

- Intel Pentium Processor 133 Mhz
- 16 MB SDRAM
- 2 MB VRAM
- Hard drive 1.2 GB
- Integrated Ethernet 10/100 Mbps
- 14 inch SVGA monitor

Call us anytime on 0345 123 555 or visit www.fujitsu-computers.com

FUJITSU

PCs • NOTEBOOKS • SERVERS

Six cru...
the fax...
about...

1. Fax

2. PC Connection

3. Printer/Scanner

4. Modem

Police uncover Eta plot to assassinate Spanish princess

BY BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS AND TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

BASQUE terrorists planned to murder or kidnap the Infanta Elena de Borbón, eldest daughter of King Juan Carlos of Spain, while she was out horse-riding in southwest France, according to one of France's top counter-terrorism experts.

The plot by militants of the Basque separatist group Eta was uncovered after the arrest last month of José Luis Urrusolo Sistiaga, believed to be number three in the Eta leadership. Roland Jacquard, head of the independent International Terrorism Observatory in Paris, told *France-Soir* newspaper.

"Urrusolo planned a high-profile and symbolic coup: the kidnapping or assassination of the Spanish Infanta," M Jacquard said, who has close links with the French secret services.

However, Fernando Delgado Martínez, a senior spokesman for the Spanish Interior Ministry, said yesterday that he "had absolutely no knowledge" of any plot to kill or kidnap the Infanta Elena.

Señor Urrusolo, 39, was arrested in Bordeaux on January 16 after driving through a police barrier. He was allegedly carrying a revolver and false identity papers. M Jacquard said police also recovered

documents at the time of his arrest showing he had carried out intense surveillance of the locations where the King of Spain's daughter took showjumping courses at clubs in the southwest of France.

A passionate horsewoman, the Infanta Elena, 33, second in line to the Spanish throne after her brother Prince Felipe, has lived in Paris since her marriage two years ago and regularly trains at French equestrian clubs.

The alleged plot to murder the Infanta Elena is not Eta's first attempt to strike at Spain's Royal Family. An attempt to murder the King was foiled in August 1995, when Spanish police arrested

Scotland Yard's 80-strong SO14 unit, which provides protection for the Royal Family, is certain to have been alerted to the Spanish plot.

Special Branch and M15 have links to other security forces in the EU. British police would have a special interest because members of the Royal Family, especially the Prince of Wales and his former wife, have visited the Spanish royal family regularly.

three snipers in Majorca. Eta separatists are believed to have identified targets in France in retaliation for the increased co-operation between French and Spanish anti-terrorism authorities, which has led to more than 200 arrests over the past ten years.

Some 51 Spanish members of Eta are currently imprisoned in France, and young Basque separatist militants have reportedly set up terrorist cells in Brittany, the Gironde region and around Toulouse.

Counter-terrorism experts in France say that elements within Eta may have chosen to bring their campaign to France in defiance of the group's political leadership.

Juan Luis Aguirre, Eta's logistics second-in-command, was arrested last November in a "safe house" in Bayonne, where police recovered documents proposing "punitive" attacks in France and naming a series of possible targets including Jean-Louis Debré, the French Interior Minister, Laurence Le Vert, the anti-terrorism judge, and Roger Marion, the Paris police chief in charge of anti-terrorism operations. Charles Pasqua, the former Interior Minister, was also named.



The Infanta Elena de Borbón, King Juan Carlos's eldest daughter and second in line to the Spanish throne, who now lives in Paris



Master of disguise: two of Urrusolo's many faces

Chameleon on the run for 20 years

JOSÉ Luis Urrusolo Sistiaga, alias Joseba, was Spain's most wanted Basque terrorist at the time of his arrest (Tunku Varadarajan writes). His genius for disguise earned him notoriety as "the man with a thousand faces", and police have remarked on the manner in which he could transform himself in minutes "from a person who looks like a young lawyer to someone who could pass for an old

Basque grandfather". Señor Urrusolo, 39, was arrested by police close to his hideout near Bordeaux on January 17. He is regarded by Spanish police as the most dangerous member of the high command of Eta, the Basque terrorist group which has waged a violent campaign for independence from Madrid since 1968, in which more than 800 people have died. He is believed to be the

group's number three, charge of logistics and arms training of new recruits. Such is the mark of Eta's world, however, anti-terrorism experts in Si speculate that Señor Urrusolo might even have been group's overall commander on 18 separate charges of murder, he joined Eta in 1976, making him of the organisation's long serving members.

Kohl fights for survival with talks on tax reform

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HELMUT KOHL, the German Chancellor, yesterday embarked on a bruising fight for political survival by inviting leading opposition Social Democrats to cross-party negotiations on the long-delayed reform of the German tax system.

The Bonn talks, which are likely to continue for about a month, come amid frenzied speculation about the German leader's future. Herr Kohl has told friends that he will declare after Easter whether he intends to stand for re-election next year.

Some believe this means the Chancellor will be guided by personal or even sentimental reasons — he has just become a grandfather and the whole family will gather briefly over the holiday. However, the most important indication of his future will be the outcome of the talks with the Social Democrats.

Herr Kohl has broken away from his social conservative

political roots and is trying to recast himself as the moderniser of Germany. Tax, health and pension reforms are all on the agenda as the Chancellor tries to overhaul public spending and trim back the welfare state, in part to meet the entry criteria for European economic and monetary union.

As a result he has exposed the risks in his party between conservatives and reformers and now needs to call on the support of the Social Democrats, who are themselves

US instructors accused of rape

Darmstadt: Three American army instructors in Germany have been suspended over claims that they sexually harassed and raped at least 21 women soldiers, US military authorities said here. (AFP)

divided on how far the welfare system can be pruned. The Social Democrats enjoy a majority in the Bundestag, the upper house of parliament, which has been blocking or delaying some of the Chancellor's legislation.

Bonn's governing coalition wants to cut the level of income tax from 53 to 39 per cent, they want to scrap tax advantages for those who work at weekends or nights, and impose income tax on pensions starting from £12,000 a year. The Government also wants to tax profits from maturing life insurance policies. It is considering making up for the shortfall in tax revenue by raising value added tax.

The Social Democrats resist, for electoral reasons, any tax on pensions or night and shift work. However, the key question will be how to make up the tax revenue shortfall.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 16

New rift over Nato threatened by France

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN BRUSSELS

FRANCE is prepared to reverse its decision to rejoin Nato if Washington maintains its refusal to give up control of the Southern Command, based in Naples, French officials said yesterday.

Diplomats confirmed a hardening in French terms for returning to full Nato membership as the alliance reported more progress than expected in negotiations with Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, on a pact that would smooth the way for the entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. Among arrangements already outlined is the creation of a "Nato-Russia Council" to be based at the alliance's headquarters in Brussels.

Paris has been growing frustrated over the lack of support from its allies for its plans for the rapid "Europeanisation" of Nato, a process which it set last year as the price for its re-entry. While France's reluctance is widely viewed as a negotiating ploy in the run-up to a string of key Nato decisions, French officials acknowledge that President Chirac could find domestic advantage in staying out of the organisation.

France's main demand has been the appointment of a European officer in charge of the Naples command, which includes the US Sixth Fleet and has always been held by Americans. Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, told President Chirac last week that the arrangement was not negotiable.

The French are in turn telling the Americans that they are prepared to stay outside rather than back down and the matter must be settled by a Nato summit in July. "This is going to depend on the White House. It's something that goes beyond Albright. Clinton will have to cut a deal," a senior French official said yesterday.

Hervé de Charette, the French Foreign Minister, said yesterday he stuck by a threat which he delivered to Nato colleagues in Brussels last week. Reforming the Naples command, which will be one of only two European regional commands in the new Nato, was the key to answering France's needs, he said. "If there is continuing disagreement, we will be obliged to stay where we are. An historic occasion would have been lost."

M de Charette proposed a scheme to share the Naples command between an American and a European officer of equal rank. US officials said it "would not be a tragedy" if France went its own way, given the irritation that M Chirac and his team have caused Washington recently.

Tycoon lines up for Serb presidency

FROM TOM WALKER IN SARAJEVO

BOGOLJUB KARIC, Serbia's richest businessman, has said that he will run for the country's presidency if the opposition Zajedno coalition cannot put forward a realistic candidate to challenge the ruling Socialists.

According to reports in Belgrade, the multimillionaire Mr Karic, who has

Canadian citizenship, had private talks with student leaders in which he said he saw a "unique chance" to save Serbia. Mr Karic was previously a confidant of President Milosevic, and his defection from the head of state's inner circle provides fresh evidence that the Serbian leader is rapidly losing vital friends.

Zajedno has so far maintained that its presidential candidate should be Vuk Draskovic, but the charismatic novelist

and figurehead for street demonstrators is viewed with suspicion by many Serbs. Mr Karic, 43, is regarded as a Orthodox patriot with international experience and contacts who, unlike many not sully his name through war profiteering and sanctions-busting. His rift with Mr Milosevic surfaced last month when his Braca Karic television channel changed its policy and began giving full coverage to the Belgrade street protests.

Six crucial facts about the fax machine you're about to buy

1. FAXING Technology has moved on and value for money has increased. So before you buy any old fax machine, take a good look at the new plain paper F120 from Muratec. It has all the processing power your business could ever need.

2. PC CONNECTIBLE Check that your new fax can work with your PC. The F120 has an optional PC interface* that lets you receive and send faxes directly to or from your PC and allows you to use your fax as a scanner to import images into your computer files.

3. PRINTING/COPYING Make sure your PC can use your fax as a printer. The F120 can be used as a 600dpi printer* or as a high quality plain paper laser copier. It makes up to 39 copies from one original with automatic or manual size reduction.

4. MULTITASKING Consider how much time can be wasted by waiting at the fax machine. The F120 scans outgoing faxes at the superfast speed of 35 pages per minute regardless of

whether it is receiving or printing incoming messages. This means you can get on with other work sooner than with ordinary fax machines.

5. MEMORY Look for a fax that incorporates a time and money saving memory. The F120 has a built in 78 page memory (upgradable to 558 pages) which facilitates out of paper reception, broadcasting and delayed send transmissions, so you can send when tariffs are lower.

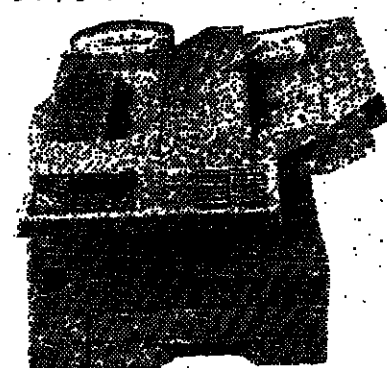
6. THE FAX SUPPLIER Buy from a company that specialises. Muratec only make faxes, so we have to be the best. We build fax machines with all these value added features built-in, not bolted on.

So before you rush out and buy an ordinary fax, send for details on the multifunctional, multitasking F120. We'll also send you a FREE Guide to Fax Facts which contains a lot more details about buying faxes.

Call 0345 626782

muratec
the fax specialists

No. 1 Stoke Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4HW
Tel (01483) 302100 Fax (01483) 301900
http://www.muratec.co.uk



*Requires additional software

"At just £25 per month, tax-free saving for a rainy day is easy."

Just call and ask for our new

Direct PEP."

MIDLAND direct

Midland Bank

Member HSBC Group

CALL FREE:

0800 277 377

Midland Bank plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. We only sell our own life assurance, pensions and unit trusts. As with any investment relating to stocks and shares, the prices of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and they may fall below the amount originally invested. Free of tax means free of Income and Capital Gains Tax. Tax legislation and practice could change in the future. Calls may be monitored or recorded. B0/B4

Leading article, page 17

مركز الاموال

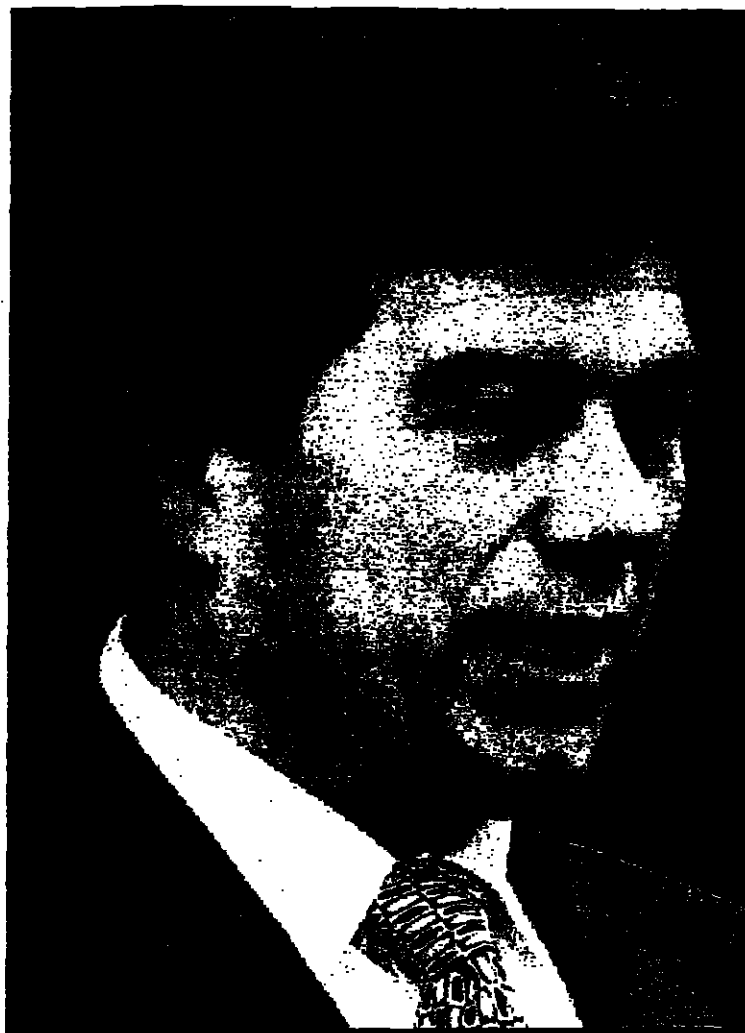
We will recover, I promise you that'

Part Two of series on Dunblane one year later, Angus Klatter reports how a headmaster and a teacher helped the town to cope

There was a prickle at the back of my neck as I walked across the car park towards the entrance of Dunblane Primary School. The last time I had been there, the road was closed by police, the pavement was covered with a strange queue of grey-faced men, the crash-barriers were held back a phalanx of men. It was the morning of the massacre, and news was beginning to filter out the enormity of what had happened. Now, the only sign was the security guard at the door who asked me to sign in. I handed him an identity card. The rest was normal. On the walls were children's drawings. From behind a closed door came the sound of a television set. A group of five-year-olds were giggling. Their way to another class seemed quieter than an ordinary primary school, but it was just my imagination.

Headmaster, Ron Taylor, one of the unsung heroes of Dunblane. It was he who led into that gymnasium, where the horror of what had happened was being shown to the children and their parents, and then dealt with the aftermath. He has had to put together a school in a town where the children are the sons and daughters of the victims. Outside the boys and girls of Primary One and Two were having their break. They were scampering across the yard, joining in boisterous games, breaking off for quick, secret conversations, behaving the way young children do when they have escaped from class. They included several who had been injured by Hamilton's bullets.

"Tell me," he said, "how do those children look to you? Do



Ron Taylor and the class that was attacked. "I have learnt just how resilient children are. But despite their resilience, they think about things in a lot more depth. Some of the insights they have are amazing"



that came last week has gone. This day marks the beginning of our recovery. And mark my words, we will recover. I promise you that. "The words were unscripted. Ron Taylor was given just ten minutes' notice of the interview. "I was taken by surprise," he says now. "There was no time to prepare anything."

So has the promise been fulfilled? He took me over to the window of his small office. It looks out onto the playground, a view that he has deliberately chosen. Outside the boys and girls of Primary One and Two were having their break. They were scampering across the yard, joining in boisterous games, breaking off for quick, secret conversations, behaving the way young children do when they have escaped from class. They included several who had been injured by Hamilton's bullets.

"Tell me," he said, "how do those children look to you? Do

they look like normal children enjoying themselves?" I said they did. "Well, there's the answer. That's what has made this last year worthwhile."

That simple scene, of course, masks a more complex reality. The scars of March 13 are still exposed, and Mr Taylor has learnt much since then about children and how they deal with shock and loss. "I have learnt just how resilient children are. But despite their resilience, they think about things in a lot more depth than people realise. I know from discussions and things they've written that they are almost more reflective than adults are, and some of the insights they have are amazing."

A number of the children, for instance, wondered at Christmas whether it would be all right to enjoy the day in view of what had happened. Teachers had to spend a lot of time reassuring them that of course it would be. "We dis-

cussed how we were never going to forget the children who died, but equally we had to move on, too. For young children to be concerned that Christmas was something they could enjoy was a real problem for us."

That concern continues. "We have a seven-year-old boy who has a birthday very close to the anniversary, and he is going through a lot of problems about whether he should have a party. It's these kind of issues that arise all the time." As if that was not enough, there has been a restructuring, with some pupils moving to a new school across the river. They have not wanted to go, and some have worried about "abandoning" their classmates.

The children are not the only ones to have faced emotional hurdles. The teachers, including those who were

injured by Hamilton's bullets, have had to present a reassuring front to their pupils every day. Yet they are coping with psychological stress of a kind hard for the rest of us to imagine. Neither Mr Taylor nor his staff have taken more than a day or two off since the tragedy. Certainly, there has been counselling and psychological support, but in the end they have been thrown back on their own resources.

"Because this is a unique situation," says Mr Taylor, "no one can really guide us. The stress on staff has been tremendous. Dealing with their own feelings and trying to cope with the children and trying to make the school a normal learning environment has been a huge task. But they've coped and achieved that magnificently. Morale has always been high and the team spirit that has developed has been quite marvellous."

"Many have gone to GPs to receive medication and have been put on to counsellors or psychiatrists or whatever. Each person copes in their own way. But the interesting thing is that almost everyone had to do that. Myself included. Some pupils require considerable help. They find school a sanctuary almost. It's strange. I would hesitate to say it's a safe environment for them. But in a way it is. When they're home some children exhibit problems. But here they are together with their friends and getting support. And that's how the staff feel."

Mr Taylor has decided — not without some disagreement — to keep the school open on March 13. The doors will open at 10.30 so that

'Our job is simply to be there'

"I CAN detect from some people almost a sense of relief that we are coming to what they would recognise as the final hurdle," says the Rev Colin McIntosh. "After this, they are saying, Dunblane will get back to normal."

That may be the hope. Mr McIntosh himself seems less certain of it being realised. The minister of Dunblane Cathedral, who has been dealing with the spiritual crisis into which the town was plunged by the events of March 13, is still deeply troubled by its aftermath, and cannot see the scars being easily healed. "I am conscious of the mistakes I have made, and also, in retrospect, the things I feel I should have anticipated but didn't. Like realising that we would come to the stage where people would be moving on at different rates. I think I should have known that."

He concedes that after the initial unity, there was "a simmering tension" in the community which came to a head just before Christmas. A trivial incident over whether to site a Christmas tree at the cemetery divided those who believed that the time had come to turn their backs on the tragedy, and those who could not put the past behind them.

"It actually was a very cathartic time," says Mr McIntosh. "It helped a lot of us to realise that we couldn't expect people to be thinking and saying the same things, because they were at different stages. And when we stopped and looked at some of the things we had said, we were a wee bitly ashamed of ourselves. We had to respect each other."

It has made him pull back from the role that was initially assigned to him — as much by the media as the town itself — of spiritual guide, figurehead almost for a grieving community. His message from the pulpit at the memorial

service, with its wonderfully moving sentence, "God's was the first of all our hearts to break", placed him at the centre of the Dunblane stage. Now, however, he has doubts about the wisdom of that approach. "I wonder if the role for a number of us is not to be a little more quiet... to stay in the background. For quite a large part of the year we were fairly prominent because, in all humility, we felt that the community had to be guided. But a year on, people are all at different stages in the process of healing. Whereas last March we could say that the whole community was united in that everyone felt exactly the same, we can't say that now... Our job is simply to be there and available, but a bit more quietly in the background... does that make sense?"

He admits, too, that for many "God has not been at the top of their agenda". Their preoccupation has been with survival rather than questions about faith and reconciliation. "I think an increasing number of people do not express their faith in terms of church attendance, so it's difficult to quantify how that faith has been affected. But there is a lot of distress at a very deep level and reactions to that are very different."

It is clear that the minister feels that "deep level of distress" himself. Sitting in the large manse with his two large golden retrievers beside him, he seems a lonely figure, only too conscious of his inadequacy in helping others to cope with their suffering. Everyone who knows him says this is simply not the case and that he has been a tower of strength. He remains unconvinced. But though events may have shaken his faith, they have not undermined it. "At the same time, I felt that I was being helped, if that makes sense."



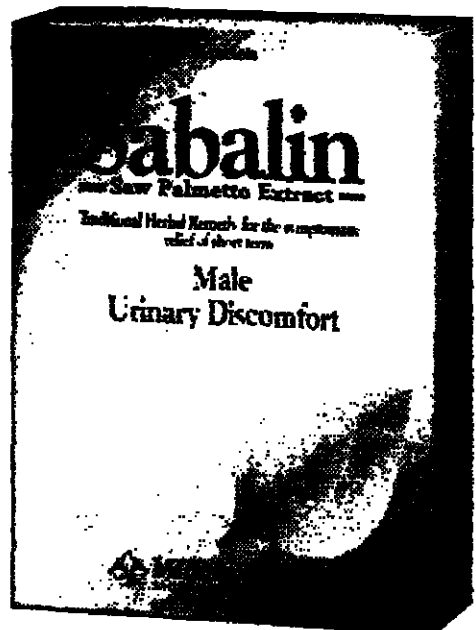
Colin McIntosh

Male Urinary Discomfort?

Nothing is more disrupting for men than not being able to get a good night's sleep because of the urge 'to go', particularly in the small hours. Now, research proves that the active ingredients in Sabalin help reduce the need to urinate frequently and improve your flow too. So you, (and your partner) can get a good night's sleep.

Sabalin is a traditional herbal remedy for the short term symptomatic relief of male urinary discomfort. Strong and safe, it contains a highly potent extract of the Saw Palmetto fruit to provide gentle, yet effective relief for this inconvenient male problem.

herbal
•
effective
•
clinically researched



Always read the in-pack leaflet.

For more information on Sabalin and how its herbal ingredients can help you, call the Sabalin Help Line on 0181 580 8847.

Available at Boots, Holland & Barrett, chemists, and health food stores.

'They find school a sanctuary almost, it is strange'

families can visit the site of the shooting — the gymnasium has long since been razed, and trees planted in the space. Thereafter it will be a normal day. Suggestions that there should be a minute's silence were rejected as inappropriate. "What do you ask Primary Two children to think about?" Presiding over this will be a man who exudes quiet confidence, but who is also subject to strong emotion. As well as dealing with the aftermath of tragedy, Mr Taylor has been going through a divorce, so there has been no stable family to fall back on. How has he coped? Mainly, he says, by talking. "I feel able to talk without too much of a problem," he says. "Each person copes in their own way, myself included. Here we are together, with friends and getting support. There will always be scars. Always emotional scars. It's not something one can ever forget. Losing a colleague and losing children are just one's worst nightmare. But to survive and to be true to the children who are here, we have to put it behind us and move on. We have no option."

"It's not easy, and I think this approaching anniversary has crystallised that for us. We feel this is the largest hurdle we have had to face. But hopefully, it is the last one."

OR get up to 25% no claim discount on your home contents insurance with Eagle Star.

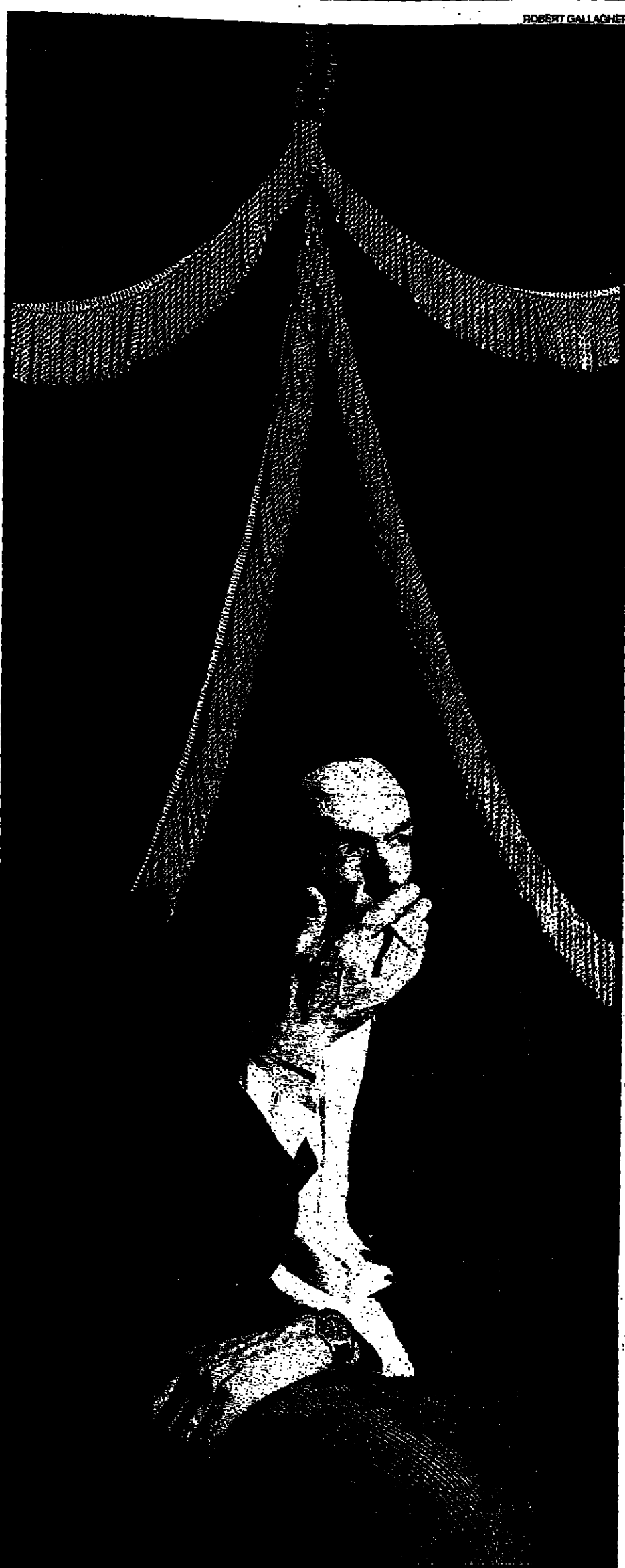
Interested?

Call 0800 333 800

EAGLE STAR Direct

Eagle Star Direct offers a 10% no claim discount for customers with 3 consecutive claim free years with any insurer. The discount rises to 25% after 2 further claim free years with Eagle Star Direct. Phone for a free home insurance quote weekdays 9am-6pm, Saturday 9am-2pm.

A YEAR SUPPLY 360 TABLETS £10 POST FREE ORDER CREDIT CARD NO 01481 714 ORDERLINE: 014



For Gems, *Mars Attacks* was his "baby", but it may also be his Hollywood swansong

'I spent too much of my time on wine and women'

To the muted strains of a swing band, three strippers shimmy out of their corsets and shake their assets at the camera, over and over again. Between takes Jonathan Gems peers into a video monitor and rubs his chin.

The location is a cramped Hollywood basement made to look like a smoke-filled nightclub. Money is tight, time is short and rumour has it that one of the girls is being an intolerable prima donna. Considering he has never directed a film before, Mr Gems is a picture of cool. He seldom raises his voice and his woolly skull cap and rumpled Oxford jacket make him look like a walk-on from *Les Misérables*.

The outfit could have been calculated to send the message that its wearer has already survived most of the traumas showbiz can throw at a man, not to mention those of living with a famous mother and a sister born with Down's syndrome. It will take more than a grumpy start to upset him.

Gems is the son of Pam Gems, the *grande dame* of the West End whose hit play about Stanley Spencer has just transferred to New York. Her son, too, was a colourful figure on the London theatre scene until moving west to seek his fortune in the movies seven years ago, and his current film is his \$1 million adaptation of his mother's play, *The Treat*, about three prostitutes gearing up for a big night with a local politician.

On his last job the stakes were higher: he was the writer of *Mars Attacks*, a massive \$80 million sci-fi spoof from Warner Brothers that was supposed to rule the spring box office in America. Instead it had a miserable opening despite a cast that includes Jack Nicholson, Glenn Close and an unusually funny Pierce Brosnan.

The film, Gems says, was a victim of "the worst marketing campaign that Warners have ever done". But for a Brit enmeshed in by far the biggest project of his career, it was still something of a triumph.

He dreamt the whole thing up after stumbling on a set of 1950s *Mars Attacks* bubble-gum cards in a junk shop called Wacko on Melrose Avenue — his local King's Road. He sold the idea of ray-gun happy Martians in 70mm celluloid to his friend, the director Tim Burton, whom he

Jonathan Gems, the British screenwriter of *Mars Attacks*, is currently directing his first American film, *The Treat*. But after that is finished he plans to leave Los Angeles and return to London. He tells Giles Whittell why

paired up with another friend, the model Lisa Marie, after working with Burton on the first *Barman* film in 1989. (The couple have since been married, and divorced.) Burton hired Gems to write a script and a first draft was ready by January 1995.

At that point Gems was fired. "Somebody, I don't know who, got me canned," he says, munching an apple between scenes. "Then the studio hired this writing team who re-did the script and basically made a mess of it. So the movie was going to be cancelled. Every-one was put on notice that they were going to be fired too."

Gems says he then rode to the rescue with his own re-write which the studio approved. Jack Nicholson also performed a crucial role by agreeing to play a nauseatingly spineless President, but if, as seems likely, the film recoups its costs when it opens in Britain on Friday, Gems will have every right to feel smug.

Mars Attacks is, to a large extent, his "baby", but it may also be his Hollywood swansong. He has no idea whether *The Treat* will make it into cinemas, and once it is shot he plans to return to London and live in a house bought with his screenwriting winnings in a leafy mews in Shepherd's Bush.

"Los Angeles is a desert," he says. "There's no nourishment here. It's a good place to make films because the world film industry is here, but it's not a good place to live."

He refuses to comment on dark gossip that *Independence Day*, last summer's

blockbuster in the US about an alien invasion, was based on a purloined copy of his *Mars Attacks* script.

But when our conversation turns to a different sort of shuffling for which Hollywood is well known, he lets rip with startling venom: "All the women are whores here, especially if you're a director. All

went to a series of expensive private schools including Stowe. (The fees came from a small fortune his father made by opening a chain of wax museums across America in the late 1960s.)

He left Stowe at 17 and never went to college — something he pretends, at least, not to regret. "Being beaten and buggered at boarding school was a good training for life," he says in the tone of a bank manager remembering his army cadet days. "Especially life in LA."

LA was a world away from the London fringe in the late Seventies, however. There Gems broke through with his first full-length play, *The Tax Exile*, which was also the first piece of work he let his mother knock into shape.

He did not regret it — it won several awards and an extended run at the Bush Theatre — but she did, telling an interviewer that she worried about whether he would be able to cope with his success, or repeat it.

He certainly wallowed in it. "After *The Tax Exile* all the girls in London wanted to f--- me, so I let them," he says with typical modesty. "It was an interesting but ultimately very destructive experience. I spent too much time on wine and women and not enough time working, and I would end up broke. I've since learnt you have to husband your talents."

Gems has also learnt what it means to be outspoken, and, at the same time, politically incorrect. In 1985 his play *Susan's Breasts*, which he calls "a simple teenage love story", so enraged London's feminists

that they picketed the Royal Court Theatre in a vain attempt to curb a popular stampede to see it.

He relishes describing how Max Stafford-Clarke, the theatre's artistic director, banned him from his own play "because he wanted to keep in with the feminists". Talking about his disabled sister, Lala, is clearly harder. Even so, he takes on the Establishment with gusto.

The social services can be quite fascistic in taking children away from their families and putting them in homes just because they're handicapped," he says. "A hundred years ago every village had a village idiot and they were an enriching part of society. Now they put them away, where of course they die young, in misery, and society doesn't have the pleasure of their presence."

Lala, by contrast, spends a third of the year in a special school in Wales and two thirds at home with her parents in London.

At 27 she has a mental age of nine, and is, her big brother says, "completely delightful" — not least as a source of naive comedy which he traces back to the era of *commedia dell'arte* and tries to incorporate in his own work.

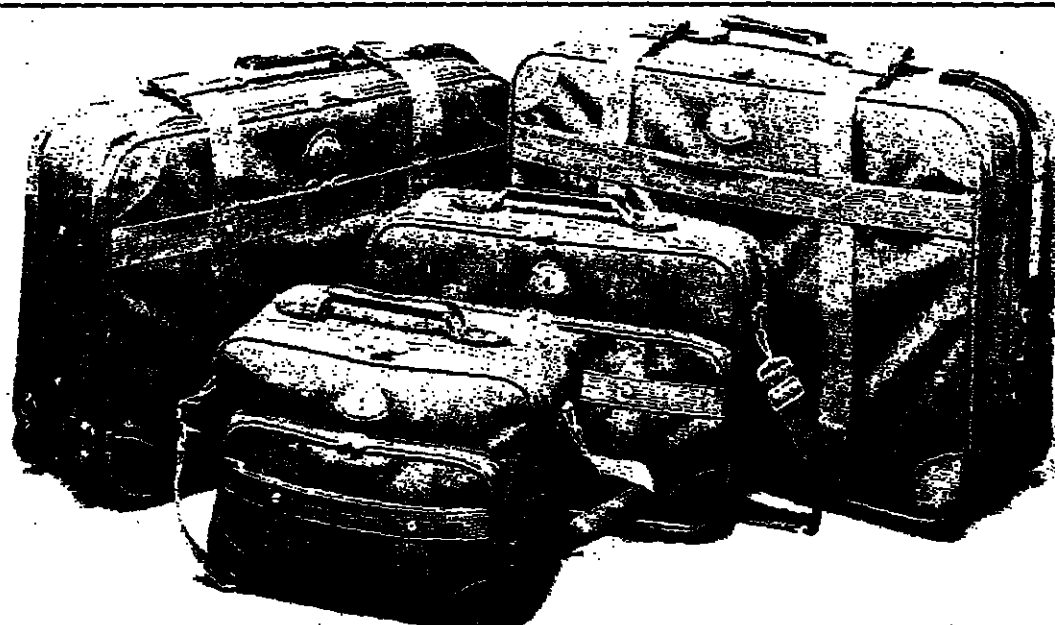
He will soon be seeing more of her, and of a London he is convinced is on the verge of a film-making boom. "We've got the talent, we've got the technicians and we've got the stars," he says. "All we need is intelligent producers and government help in taking away some of the tax restrictions. Then film-making would be highly profitable, and a much safer bet than..." he flails for a comparison, but only briefly, "shipping."

From the man who just wrote *Mars Attacks*, that's some vote of confidence.



EXCLUSIVE GLOBE-TROTTER LUGGAGE OFFER

Buy two suitcases and get two FREE travel bags



IF YOU want to travel in style, take advantage of our fantastic Globe-Trotter luggage offer. Readers of *The Times* who buy these two suitcases get a matching overnight cabin case and flight bag free of charge.

The price for two elegant suitcases is £125 including p.p.p. The value of your free gifts, giving you a stylishly coordinated set, is £80. Choose from either petrol blue or black.

Since 1897 Globe-Trotter has created distinctive luggage made with superb craftsmanship. The cases from the Pioneer range are constructed to the most exacting standards in an attractive and resistant twill-weave polyester fabric trimmed with leather-look nubuck.

Materials are chosen to give lasting service and good looks. The contemporary soft-sides have reinforced seams and specially designed moulded handles and fittings. All Globe-Trotter products come with a free 10-year guarantee.

Outer pockets give you extra capacity and also make it easier to pack all those things you need while travelling. Both suitcases have wheels and the free bags have comfortably wide shoulder straps.

The dimensions are: large suitcase 75cm x 51 x 25; smaller suitcase 70cm x 47 x 24; on board case 50cm x 30 x 17; flight bag 39cm x 30 x 20.

The Times Globe-Trotter Suitcase Offer

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms) _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Signature _____

Date _____

ITEM	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTALS
GLOBE-TROTTER SUITCASE SET - BLACK	1	£125.00	
GLOBE-TROTTER SUITCASE SET - BLUE	1	£125.00	
Price includes postage and packing.			TOTAL COST

I enclose a cheque/postal order(s) made payable to: The Times Suitcase Offer FT595.

Please write name and address on back of all cheques.

Or debit my Access/Visa card number: _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Send coupon and remittance to THE TIMES SUITCASE OFFER FT595, PO Box 333, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7ZD. Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Offer available in UK & Eire. No cashed cheques return goods within 7 days of receipt for full refund. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 80 days. The Times cannot be held responsible for returned goods lost in transit. Offer subject to availability. You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you, if you do not wish to participate please tick box. ☐

FOR ORDERS PLEASE TELEPHONE 01525-851945 (24 HOURS)

EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT SELENIUM!

At last, Selenium, one of the most vital dietary supplements is being given the press it deserves!

The British Medical Journal and the Journal of the American Medical Association have both published astonishing pieces of research in the last two months. Their results indicate that Selenium is cardio-protective, cancer preventing and can help delay ageing.

However, as Dr Larry Clarke from the Arizona Cancer Centre recently pointed out, "Selenium is different from most other nutrients in that you can't be sure how much is in your diet - it varies hugely in foodstuffs."

With Healthspan, you can be certain of getting the right amount of Selenium. Our tablets combine 100mcg of Selenium with Vitamins A, C and E at 100% of the Government Recommended Daily Allowance.

They also come to you at unbeatable Tax-Free Prices direct from Guernsey, with no extra charge for Post and Packing.

A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF 360 TABLETS £10.95 POST FREE

TAX-FREE ORDER FORM

Please fill in this coupon and return it with a cheque or P.O. payable to "Healthspan Direct" and post it to: Healthspan, PO Box 84, Guernsey GY1 3BT.

Or Debit my Mastercard/Visa Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Please send me 360 Selenium A.C.E. tablets at the special offer price of only £10.95 inc. P&P.

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

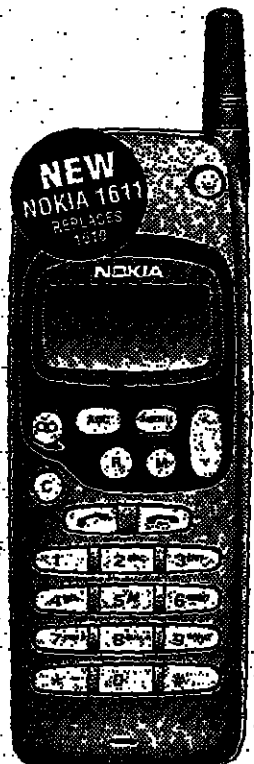
Post Code: _____

Healthspan Marketing Services Ltd, 17th Mansard Court, 2000 Leinster Road, Dublin 2, Ireland. Tel: 01-454 4444. Fax: 01-454 4445. Healthspan Direct, PO Box 84, Guernsey GY1 3BT.

CREDIT CARD HOTLINE 01481 714015

FAX ORDERLINE: 01481 713790

FREE CALLS EVERY MONTH FOREVER



FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

FREE 15 MINS CALLS PER MONTH

هكذا من راصد

Faith in the family

Devaluing domesticity is fatal to society, says Jonathan Sacks

Consider a family: father, mother and children. They live, eat and relax together, though each wants time and space in which to be alone. There are certain rules that bind them together, without which they would find it difficult to get along. Let us suppose that these include such things as this: that on at least some nights of the week they eat together, that not everyone talks at once, that there is a roughly equitable sharing of responsibilities, and that when Mum or Dad says that it's time to go to bed, there are rituals of protest followed by reluctant obedience.

Sometimes the rules break down, as they do in every family. There are arguments, "scenes", minor rebellions. These are followed by the routines of reconciliation — someone says sorry, he or she is forgiven, order is restored, and love reaffirmed. In this sequence of everyday transactions we witness, in miniature, the making and sustaining of the moral life.

Deep beneath the surface of this family are certain fundamental concepts: fidelity, loyalty, responsibility, authority, obedience, justice and compassion. They frame a series of expectations: that neither husband nor wife will commit adultery, that when the children are young they will do what they are told, sometimes (though as rarely as possible) without fully understanding why, that parental requests will be consistent, fair and in the long-term interests of the children, and that the members of the family will not walk out on one another or ignore a cry for help.

Except in extreme situations, these things do not need to be spelt out, because the family is a social institution. It is not something its members have invented, any more than they have made the language they speak. It is something they have inherited from the culture — from habit or custom, or the example of their parents, or possibly religious teaching. But when one of the basic rules is broken, there is a breach in the wall of trust, and unless it is mended, the family will not be the same again.

The stable family is not a dispensable institution. Communities such as the Israeli kibbutz have tried, and after long experience, have reverted to more traditional patterns. The family is the crucible of much that matters in later life, the growth of sympathy and trust and sociability. It is where we learn who we are, where we came from, and where we belong. Above all, it is the matrix of the belief that lies at the heart of hope itself, namely that love given is not given in vain, that in the sharing of vulnerabilities we discover strength. Heaven help us if, as a society, we are judged by history to have come to be pained for the protection of animals, birds, rare plants and rainforests while failing to heed the cry of our own children.

It is not that there are no government policies that would, over the course of time, bring healing to the fractured family. There are. We could use the law, education and fiscal policy to send a clear message that marriage, though not the only, is the socially preferred context of child-rearing. Indeed, in strict economic terms there are overwhelming reasons for doing so. The family can be strengthened, and even on strictly non-moral grounds, should be. But it will not be done. The political will is lacking.

A politics of institutions is not a politics of interest, it is a politics of the common good. To exist at all it must be prepared to make moral judgments, not indeed to legislate on them, but at the very least to bring them within the domain of public debate, so that in time we may be able to create a political will that is currently lacking. With grave trepidation, therefore, I want to say what others, surely no less wise, believe cannot be said.

If we have any moral responsibilities at all, then we have moral responsibilities to those we brought into being. To have a child and then walk away is an abandonment of the most extreme kind, whatever the cause or circumstance. If we have a duty to fulfil any undertaking, we have a duty to honour the pledge of marriage. For in marriage we ask for and offer a commitment to share not this or that aspect of life but life itself. Marriage is the supreme example of a moral bond. If marriage is holy, adultery is a sin. If it is moral, then adultery is a wrong. Adultery is wrong because it is a betrayal — of a partner, a commitment, a promise, a trust.

Understanding why adultery is wrong allows us to understand why morality matters, and why so few acts are truly private. It devalues the currency of commitment: the word spoken, the pledge given, the promise undertaken. What we do today affects, consciously or unconsciously, by our example. We teach our partners, friends, and above all our children, that despite our most serious undertakings, the word of another person cannot be trusted.

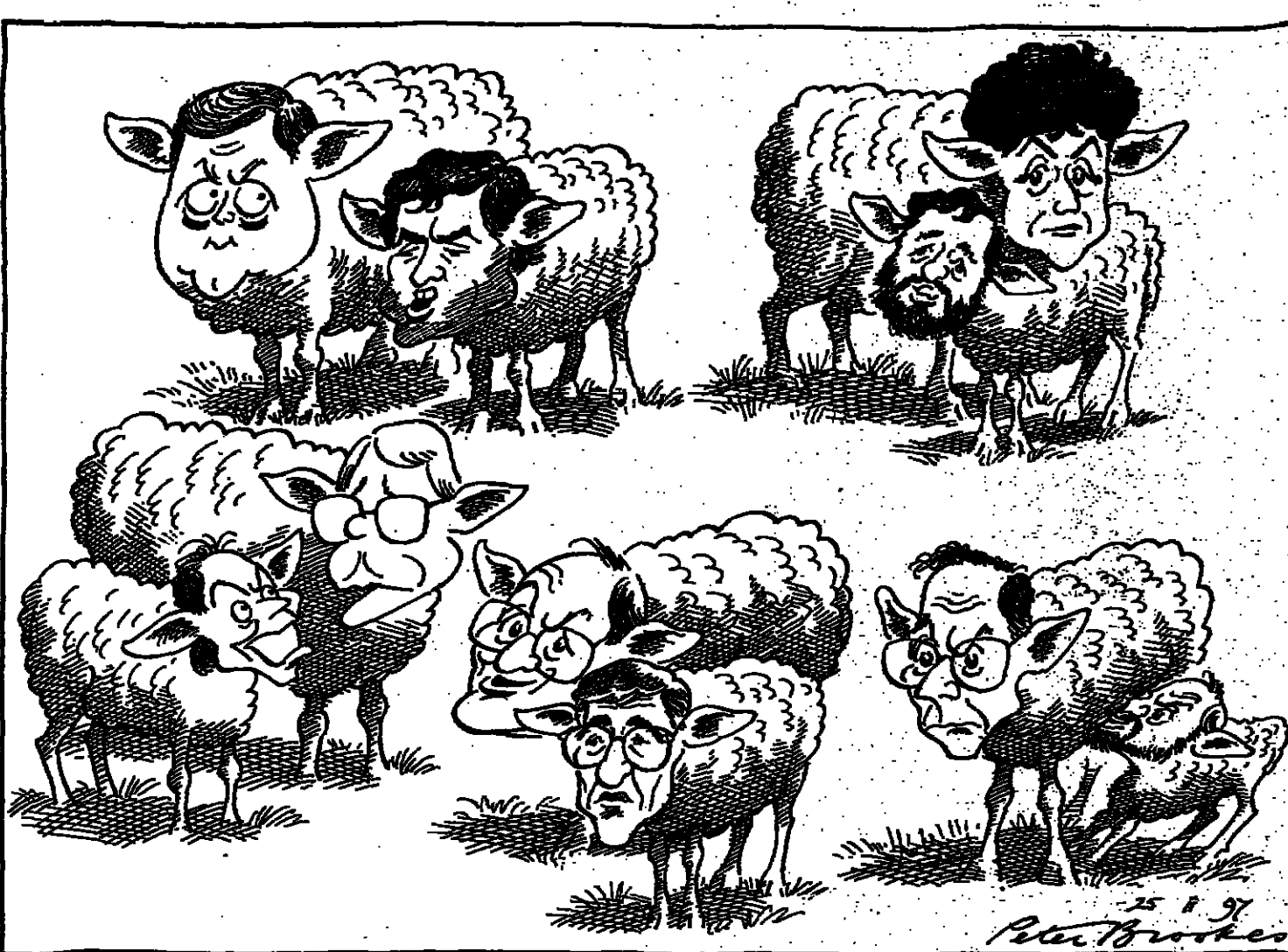
Reconnecting morality and politics is the genesis of hope, because morality restores to politics the idea that there are things I can change. I am bound to others, and together we are the co-authors of our world. Of this, the supreme example is the family. Far from being the institution we can least affect, it is the one we can most affect, as it is made or unmade by our choices.

The devaluing of the family and the legitimising of sexual licence, whether in Ancient Greece or contemporary Britain, is the beginning of the end of a social system. If there are any objective limits to a moral order, they lie here. We need to be cared for before we can learn to care for others. The family will die only if we lose faith in it. We have not lost faith in it, so it will not die.

This is the final extract from *The Politics of Hope*, to be published on March 6 by Cape, (£15.99).



We no more invent our families than our language



A MIRACLE OF SCIENCE: PERFECT COPIES

Like a wolf on the fold

Cloning animals reduces diversity, and means imperilling genetic strains that we may need in future

The shepherd's calendar will never be the same now that we have Dolly the lamb, cloned in Edinburgh from a scrap of udder. This revolutionary mammal is the first offspring grown, via a modified egg and surrogate mother, from a shred of an adult animal's body to which she is genetically identical. Why, hello Dolly! I trust the spring keeps fine for you.

It is just as well that the team at the Roslin Institute and PPL Therapeutics have so carefully explained why they did it. We are told that Dolly offers the possibility of producing flocks of medicated transgenic milk-sheep to help, for instance, haemophiliacs. As medical research, this is less vulnerable to Luddite vilification: it would clearly never have done for some supermarket chain to have brazenly presented her as the answer to the problem of standardising lamb chops so as to bring down the costs of shrink-wrapping.

Even so, the Frankenstein alarmists have had plenty to work on. If they can do it with sheep, they will soon work out how to do it to human beings, they cry. It is illegal in Britain even to try, but who knows about the world's less lawful corners? Commentators have dug out Ira Levin's old thriller *The Boys from Brazil*, in which neo-Nazis secretly clone Hitler in the rainforest and place the children for adoption in families with an identical social profile to the late Adolf's, hoping to strike lucky again. Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* has been dusted off, too, with its image of obedient workers being rolled off a production line (although they were not clones of an adult but grossly multiplied twins, 15,000 per egg).

There has been wild talk of dictators cloning themselves, impresarios cloning ageing superstars (grow your own Ken Dodd) or parents stockpiling spare embryos of their baby in case of cot-death. *The Times* caused many of us to choke over yesterday's toast with a deadpan line from a science writer about a woman who asked him "only last week" how she could clone her dead father and bring him back to life as a baby, perhaps even carrying him in her own womb. He has sent her a message saying "it will be possible sooner than she thinks". Sadly, this does not appear to have been accompanied by another message saying "See a psychiatrist, madam, now."

No doubt by today even more grisly possibilities will have emerged.

up to and including the suggestion that Baroness Thatcher has donated a chunk of soft tissue to the backroom boys at Conservative Central Office, while old Labour renegades are secretly churning out baby Bernas. Good, rousing sci-fi stuff you might easily forget that it all began with one little lamb.

This is a pity. Leaving aside the disgusting and wholly pointless possibility of human cloning, there are more urgent questions. This breakthrough has been made with animals, and the earliest risks lie with animals. Transgenic medical sheep

two-sex breeding methods. Add the possibility of cloning, cultivate a cavalier disregard for the tiny but significant faults introduced every time you blast the building-blocks of life with electric current or soak them in chemical baths, and you have a limitless range of possibilities for disaster — long before you ever get near human cloning.

It is not animal welfare that bothers me most. Dolly will have a more comfortable life than her cousins who take their chances out on the fells with the foxes. Early cloned animals will be well looked after, simply because they will be so staggeringly expensive. As the price comes down, and identical herds and flocks are commonplace, their lives will probably be no different from those of ordinary farm animals (which is to say that

if they are in the hands of a welfare-minded farmer they will live decently and die humanely, and if they are in more intensive units God help them). Possibly — probably — being genetically identical groups they will be more prone to disease, and not give the farmer the usual sporting chance that an epidemic will spare some resistant specimens. But even that is not the main problem.

What looks at us out of the dark eyes of Dolly the lamb is a subtler, more sombre threat. Already, by modern breeding methods and the widespread use of artificial insemination, we have narrowed the gene pool of farm animals to an alarming degree. Admittedly, all farm stock are the product of patient centuries of deliberate breeding, but remember that until this century, a bull's or boar's range was limited to how far he or his day's mate could trot. Now a prize bull may have his sperm flown all round the world and produce ten thousand offspring in a year.

But at least they are all by different cows: this gives some chance to

genetic diversity, and slows down the process of narrowing the species. Cloning will speed it up. The best animals will be more able to crowd out the rest.

"So the fittest will survive," you say. "So what?" You could argue eloquently for taking the expensive uncertainties out of breeding, and ending the classic frustration of putting two fine animals together and producing a weedy one. You could promise guaranteed herds of BSE-resistant cattle, medically useful sheep, fast racehorses and pigs which produce low-fat bacon. If the demand is there, why not meet it without hesitation and let biodiversity go hang?

Because, quite simply, it is not for us to end evolution. The history of living creatures is a story of change and adaptation. Normal reproduction ensures that the genetic kaleidoscope is shaken every single time. Besides, the qualities which we value today, may not be those the future needs. Already some farmers have been compelled to turn to previously scorned rare breeds — preserved by enthusiasts — to freshen up inbred stock. Others have found that circumstances change: when the fashion for indoor tethered pigs began to give way to free-range ones in fields, farmers sought out old-fashioned, hardy bloodlines that would flourish out in the cold. Needs constantly change, the very climate may be changing. There may be future diseases to which only some 'breed' hitherto scorned as uneconomic can supply the biological answer. Or it may be that the next level of excellence in some creature has yet to manifest itself and will turn up by accident. It has happened often enough.

If we do prefer the library control of cloning to the glorious gamble of life, we will be interfering with nature in a way far more arrogant and dangerous than ever before. We do not know what is coming, even to our own species. A modern parent might demand a lean baby with computer skills and an aptitude for figure-skating and GCSE, and so unwittingly betray some future, post-cataclysmic generation which desperately needs stout hardy labourers to dig and carry water. Diversity, in all living things, is our best hope.

Never mind, I pin my faith on the well-known ability of sheep to frustrate their owners. I would like to think that Dolly will hop out of her pen in a few months' time, find a handsome low-bred Highland ram and teach us a bit of humility.

Libby Purves

Third leader

SUPPORT for the Referendum Party has been pledged by Third Way, the favourite bathhouse reading of former National Front activists. The magazine, which is run by NF members who left because of ideological differences, swings foursquare behind Sir James Goldsmith's lot.

Third Way, which calls itself "the voice of the radical centre", is a nationalist and culturally separatist rag run by Patrick Harrington, formerly a big banana with the NF. Its latest issue has a cover picture of Goldsmith in ruminative pose, and an extended discussion of why Third Way bulldozes should vote Referendum.

"I believe that Sir James Goldsmith is a sincere man and many of his views are complementary to our own," says Harrington, who had to attend lectures on his own as a student at North London Polytechnic because his classmates found his extreme right-wing views so objectionable.

Harrington has not had any contact with the Referendum Party since the middle of last year, when he was told his request for an

interview with Goldsmith would be "sympathetically considered". "All the same," he says, "I am encouraging my supporters to vote for and support the party" — and its freephone number is printed on the back of the magazine. "We refuse to deal with Third Way."

"So you want lower taxes, better healthcare and a Spice Girl to drive you to the polling station?"

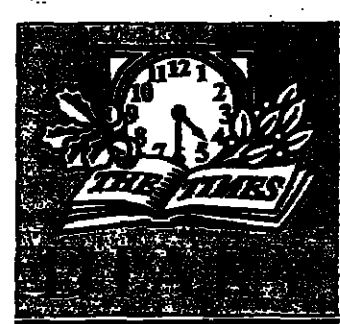
says an ungrateful Referendum Party spokesman.

No cushy merchant bank jobs or cosy peerage for the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, when his time in high office ends. In an interview on the Oxford University student radio Oxygen, Clarke accepts comparisons with that other left-leaning, loose-tongued Tory, Sir Edward Heath: "I expect to be in the House of Commons until I'm so old and doddering that I can't stay any longer," he says, "or until my constituents sling me out."

And farewell

STUFFED among the stilettoes and trouser-suits in the front row seats of Tomasz Starzewski's fashion show yesterday were the comedians Hale and Pace. Dressed in lurid purple sweatshirts and awkward suits, they are working as Starzewski's assistants for six months, while they make a documentary on fashion.

The courier, who is the darling of such high society dames as Maya Fick, is confident that his charges' dress will improve under his care: "I have told them that black is best for the shows." He is assessing them in six months.



Hale and Pace, however, have much to learn about hemlines. When Starzewski's climactic work appeared — a fur-lined, hooded wedding dress — all Hale could say was that "it would make rather a good igloo."

We pay you

MALCOLM RIFKIND's recent fundraising party in Hong Kong may not have been worth the trouble. Aside from Labour referring the event to the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life, sources within the Hong Kong branch of Conservatives Abroad say that once they had paid for the suite at the shockingly expensive Mandarin Hotel, and cocktails and canapés appropriate to a For-

sign Secretary's visit, the event ended up running a deficit.

Some hang-dog figures made their way from Earl's Court to Westminster last night, as members of the Commons all-party music group left the Brit Awards early. The 13 Tories, led by Nigel Evans, MP for Ribbles Valley, were hoping some improvised pairing could be arranged for the evening. No, said the Labour lot — so the whole party had to troop back, missing the climax of the show.

Tight schedule

ADAM COOPER, one of the most promising pairs of tighties at the Royal Ballet, is to leave. Cooper has recently been dancing the lead in Matthew Bourne's terrific all-male *Swan Lake* in the West End. Now that Bourne is taking the show to Los Angeles for eight weeks and possibly on to Broadway, Cooper wants to go with him. When he asked for leave from Covent Garden, however, they said no, so Cooper said goodbye. "It must have been a hard decision to leave the Royal Ballet to undertake the LA season with us," says Bourne. For Cooper, however, it may be for the best. He has been



Cooper: swanning off

tiring of the barre and has his heart set on an acting career. LA could be the perfect platform.

Robert Fox, the producer, is having trouble casting a London version of the Broadway hit *Masterclass*. "I don't understand why, but we can't find an actor with all the right credentials: looks, acting ability, a great voice and who can hold up opposite Patti Lupone as Maria Callas."

It's now or never for Kohl

Anatole Kaletsky says delay is fatal to monetary union

In doubt, why not procrastinate? Monetary union is becoming a nightmare for every politician in Europe, including the only one who really matters — Helmut Kohl. So will Germany simply decide that it should be delayed? To delay may be tempting, but it is easier said than done.

Herr Kohl believes in "European construction" with a passion and sincerity that most people in Britain simply cannot understand. The innuendos in the German press about "the Jew" Moslem Rifkin suggested one respectable, if bizarre, reason for Herr Kohl's passion. As another European statesman of Jewish extraction once remarked: "Kohl fears that somewhere in the heart of Germany still lurks a hint of the old madness. That's why he is so determined. When he says that Germany must be committed to Europe he means it in the sense of commitment to an asylum." Allowing for rhetorical overstatement, this seems a reasonable analysis of Herr Kohl's repeated admonitions that monetary union is "a matter of war or peace for Europe".

The trouble is that the Maastricht treaty — the legal instrument by which Germany was to be humanely committed to Europe — is failing in two important ways. It is obviously failing to provide a sensible blueprint for economic management in Europe. Instead of carrying the European economies into monetary union on the crest of a wave of prosperity and social cohesion, the Maastricht conditions are pushing both Germany and France back into a dark age of mass unemployment. The treaty also seems to be failing in its other main objective. With Germany and France no longer certain to satisfy all the criteria, there is no watertight legal pretext for keeping Italy, Spain and other unstable countries out of the single currency zone in the first round.

So what is to be done? Why not stick to the strict interpretation of the Maastricht targets and forget about the treaty's timetable, which states that monetary union must go ahead in 1999? Superficially this looks a comfortable solution for all concerned. On closer inspection, however, it would satisfy no one and could give Europe the worst of all possible worlds. Consider what would happen. Herr Kohl would announce that Germany would not go ahead with monetary union until all of the Maastricht conditions are fully satisfied. In Germany's case this would mean reducing the budget deficit to below 3 per cent of gross domestic product, from the likely level of 3.2 to 3.5 per cent in 1997.

If the Government stuck unrelentingly to its fiscal retrenchment and the economy grew reasonably well in the next two years, then there would be a reasonable chance of fulfilling the targets in 1998 and going ahead with the single currency by January 2000. But if these two conditions were satisfied, then there would be no problem in going ahead on the present timetable, in 1999. The treaty explicitly says that judgments should be made not only about actual deficits, but also about "planned deficits", and should consider whether any excess in the deficit is "temporary and remains close to the reference level [of 3 per cent]".

If the delay were announced at a time when the German economy was faltering, the deficit was overshooting and the Government was finding it impossible to push through spending cuts and higher taxes, financial markets and German voters would expect an easing of fiscal policy and assume a weakening of the commitment to the Maastricht targets in the foreseeable future. And once the deadline for monetary union was pushed out beyond the year 2000, it would probably also run beyond the career expectations of Herr Kohl and the generation of monetary union enthusiasts who now dominate German politics.

Once the timetable set down in the Maastricht treaty and solemnly ratified by all Europe's national parliaments became a dead letter, any future timetables or promises would become worthless. Memories would be revived of the Werner Plan to create a single currency for Europe as early as 1970.

While such a collapse of confidence in the project might not matter much for Germany, it would provoke financial crises in Italy, Spain, Belgium and probably France. The French would recall that their biggest negotiating triumph at Maastricht was winning Herr Kohl's agreement to the strict deadline of January 1999 against the furious objections of his own Finance Ministry and the Bundesbank. Only in exchange for this deadline did France give in to the German demands for an independent European central bank. If the Germans abandoned the deadline, France would reopen every aspect of the deal. The single currency process would unravel, leaving Germans suspicious of Europe and Europe hostile to Germany.

In sum, to abandon the Maastricht deadline in conditions of economic adversity would be to abandon the whole project of monetary union. Helmut Kohl would do almost anything to avoid such a decision, especially as the coda to his political career.

P.H.S



SOUTHERN DISCOMFORT

Nato needs France to pull back from impossible demands

In 1966 General de Gaulle pulled France out of Nato's integrated military command and expelled the alliance's headquarters from the French capital, in doing so he set a pattern for Western defence which lasted almost 30 years. France maintained a proud, expensive and "independent" system of nuclear and conventional defence. The allies were forced to have France as a "free rider", effectively protected in case of attack but disconnected from the intimate military network which makes Nato tick.

A generation later, closing the gap between France and Nato remains a difficult problem. President Chirac made a brave and sweeping first move in December 1995 by announcing that France was re-entering several Nato bodies, would reintegrate completely if Nato became sufficiently "Europeanised" and was reshaping its armed forces for a new century and new post-Cold War threats. By then, the late President Mitterrand's dream of creating a European military alliance independent of America and based on the EU already lay battered beyond hope of recovery. But President Chirac went further than recognising reality; he acknowledged the legitimacy and centrality of Nato.

This strategy was bold and constructive. But its tactics were inept. American officers automatically hold Nato's supreme military command and the naval Atlantic and Mediterranean commands. A European holds the post of Deputy Supreme Commander and civilian Secretary-General. President Chirac foolishly insisted that Nato could not be considered "Europeanised" unless the Mediterranean command was turned over to a European. In wartime, the assets deployed by the Commander in Naples consist mostly of the US Sixth Fleet and American aircraft based in Italy. The American Administration, backed by Congress, has been wholly consistent in rejecting the French demand as unworkable. Schemes to rotate or split the command, however well meant, made no impact.

By the time of Madeleine Albright's fruitless meetings on this issue in Paris last week, matters had deteriorated in France. The political atmosphere has been soured by the approaching rendezvous with the European single currency. The government is unpopular because of shrinking expenditures. Gaullists are frightened, quite rightly, that monetary union usurps the autonomy of the French State. The belated release of a Franco-German document promising talks between Paris and Bonn on the future of the French nuclear deterrent triggered a cascade of complaint; MPs of both Right and Left argued that France was making concessions everywhere and gaining nothing in return.

The Nato commands matter because retaining American engagement and re-engaging France are both vital. If Europe's nations are to develop any collective capacity to handle security emergencies beyond last-ditch territorial defence, that capacity will have to be organised in the alliance. For that, the alliance must include France. American threats to develop a "European defence identity" inside Nato but without France are bluff. If President Chirac feels obliged to march French officers out of Nato, the informal co-operation which has underpinned deployment in Bosnia will be over.

Compromise must be found. Since the question of Nato's Southern Command is deadlocked, attention must switch to enhancing the powers of Nato's Deputy Supreme Commander, who has been promised command of any operation using purely European forces. If America means to help France to rejoin the alliance, Washington will have to show that a senior French officer can hold this job and that it will amount to real power and influence. If France sticks to its unrealistic and unrealistic demand for the Southern Command, it will signal that the country's leaders are less serious than was previously believed about taking a full part in Europe's emerging defence network. That would be a bad blow on all fronts.

FIND THE GAPS

The Lib Dems must bite the hands that will feed them

The Liberal Democrats have long been used to serving niche markets. Their difficulty is that the niche keeps changing. It used to be between the two main parties, but as Labour has snuggled up to the Conservatives, the only space left is on the Left. Yesterday Malcolm Bruce, the party's Treasury spokesman, promised to raise the basic rate of income tax by 1p, to set a new top rate of 50 per cent for incomes over £100,000, and to raise the starting threshold to take more people out of tax altogether. As a result, 30 per cent of adults would be worse off, 70 per cent would be better off or see no difference. Mr Bruce's gamble is that enough of the latter will be seduced by the promise of extra money for education.

It would help him if the money were not to be spread so thinly. This £2 billion a year would finance nursery education for all three and four-year-olds, smaller class sizes, more books and equipment, and schools "fit to teach in". That is some programme. Given how friendly the party's education spokesman, Don Foster, has become with the teachers, it would be odd if they did not demand some of the cash for themselves.

This is all theoretical, of course. Every five years or so, the Liberal Democrats have to go through the charade of pretending that they intend to form the next government. Much is unpredictable in politics, but one thing can be said for certain: the next Secretary of State for Education will not be Mr Foster. So the minutiae of Lib Dem policy are academic. The question is: how many seats will they win at the next election, and will they become Labour's partner?

Their position in the national polls gives little cause for cheer: around 12 to 15 per cent, compared with the 18 per cent they won at the last general election. They have undoubtedly been squeezed by pressure from Tony Blair. New Labour's policies appear little different from those of the centre party of old, down to and including constitutional reform. The Lib Dems now have to harry Labour like a terrier, accusing it of trampling on civil liberties, being over-cautious on tax and spending, and becoming too Eurosceptical. Civil libertarians, tax-and-spenders and enthusiasts for European integration may be in a minority, but they make up the niches that are now the least well served by the two big parties.

The good news for the "centre" party is that its chances of playing a part in government have rarely been higher. Mr Blair might well ask them to join him in a loose coalition even if he wins a full majority. But in order to join forces with Labour in government, the Lib Dems need first to make themselves distinctive enough to win seats. They have to criticise Labour to have a chance of governing with it.

The party's best chance still lies in the South West. But the danger for Paddy Ashdown is that anti-conservative voters, in their enthusiasm for Mr Blair, will forget to vote tactically. Then a split opposition could allow Conservatives to hold on to their seats even with a smaller share of the vote. This time, therefore, the Lib Dems will be tempted to encourage the Conservative taint that "a vote for the Liberal Democrats is a vote for Labour".

NATURAL ALLIES

The Israeli President's state visit is as welcome as overdue

President Weizman's arrival today on the first state visit ever paid to Britain by an Israeli leader is overdue recognition of the long association between the two countries. It was the Balfour Declaration of 1917 that gave the Zionists momentum to establish a Jewish homeland. As the mandate authority, Britain was crucially, if bloodily, involved in the struggle for Israeli independence. Much early support, as well as several of the country's political leaders such as Abba Eban, came from Britain. And British influence in the Middle East has been vital in the many attempts, ultimately successful, to break the cycle of violence and establish a dialogue between Israel and its neighbours.

Yet for years relations at the highest level remained cool. There was lingering resentment at the terrorist violence that forced the British out of Palestine; on the Israeli side there was suspicion that the Foreign Office allowed a pro-Arab bias to colour its dealings in the Middle East. Israelis were hurt by the failure of any member of the Royal Family to pay a visit, despite numerous visits to Arab countries and reciprocal hospitality at Buckingham Palace. The acute tensions in the region not only made security a real concern, but they inhibited the spontaneous welcome essential to any successful state visit.

In the past four years, such inhibitions have been melted by Israel's courageous embrace of the peace process. The arms embargo, imposed in 1982, was lifted in 1994.

when Malcolm Rifkind paid the first visit to Israel by a Defence Secretary. Britain became an eager participant in the training of Palestinians that was needed to sustain the Oslo agreements. The Duke of Edinburgh paid a visit to Jerusalem for the ceremony honouring his mother's protection of Jews during the Second World War.

President Weizman, therefore, is coming at a time when relations are at last warm and close. For several months after the election of Benjamin Netanyahu doubts resurfaced over Israel's commitment to the Oslo accords. But since the Hebron agreement these have largely been allayed; Mr Netanyahu was in Amman at the weekend on the kind of visit that has become routine. Indeed, President Weizman himself has played an important part in keeping the peace process on track, inviting Yasser Arafat to visit him at a time when relations between the Palestinians and the Netanyahu Government had all but broken down.

The state visit will be filled with symbols. Mr Weizman's visit to Cranwell will recall his days as a fighter pilot with the RAF. He will also join in unveiling a statue to Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who rescued 100,000 Hungarian Jews in the closing days of the war. Wallenberg had little direct connection with Britain, but the Queen and the Israeli President have the full support of both countries in honouring a man who gave his life for the cause of common humanity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Scale of awards against police

From Mr Louis Schaffer

Sir, It is somewhat ironic that, in the same week that the Court of Appeal (Civil Division) curbs the level of exemplary damages to be awarded in actions involving police misconduct ("Thompson v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis", reports, February 20), there commenced in the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) the appeal of three men deprived of their liberty for 18 years as the result of deliberate fabrication of evidence by the police.

Lord Woolf ruled that the absolute maximum ever to be awarded for exemplary damages, which are punitive, should be £50,000 and then only if an officer of the rank of superintendent or above was directly involved.

My doubts on the reasonableness of that ruling were confirmed on the following day by reading of the Bridgewater case. By the Master of the Rolls' ruling this case would merit only £25,000 exemplary damages, since no superintendent was involved.

With the greatest respect to Lord Woolf, whom I greatly admire, I believe that his rationale — that it is a windfall for the person wronged and that it would result in funds not being available to be spent by the police in ways to benefit the public — is misguided and sends the wrong message. I doubt whether the Hickey cousins and Jimmy Robinson or, indeed, anyone who has read their case would, in fairness, characterise such an award as a windfall.

In any case involving criminal acts by the police, all the officers can be prosecuted in the criminal courts for perverting justice and their chief officers sued in the civil courts for malicious prosecution.

Criminal prosecutions have proved ineffective. Officers are rarely convicted and the only real sanction is the curbing of funds, so as to persuade chief officers not to allow a culture of tolerance of police misbehaviour to continue. The Commissioner should, in the Thompson case, have been sent away with a flea in his ear and told it was up to him to set his house in order.

So long as police chiefs defend cases where their officers have misbehaved, and not only are the officers not punished but there is no subsequent apology or recognition by their chiefs of their misbehaviour, then — unless there is some swinging financial comeback on those running the police — I am afraid that the exhortation in your leader column today that the Bridgewater miscarriage should never be allowed to happen again will not be achieved.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS SCHAFFER,
10 King's Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.
February 22.

Animal traps

From the Acting High Commissioner for Canada

Sir, The full-page advertisement in your issue of February 10, paid for by a number of organisations concerned with animal welfare and attacking the proposal by the European Commission to accept the Agreement on Humane Trapping Standards, should not mislead your readers.

Simply banning all types of leghold traps, which the advertisement advocates, is an arbitrary and ill-considered response to legitimate animal welfare concerns. Rather than focusing on these traps, it has always been Canada's position that the real solution is to establish international standards on humane trapping that cover all situations where wild animals are caught.

The agreement, initiated in December 1996, between Canada, Russia and the European Commission provides that opportunity. For the first time, there is a practical international framework within which real improvements in the welfare of trapped animals could be achieved. Such an agreement would require the banning of all traps that do not meet the agreed scientific standards, including conventional steel-jawed leghold restraining traps and other leghold devices.

An agreement of this kind would be a significant step forward for animal welfare. Rejection of it would be a missed opportunity to improve trapping practices, both internationally and in the EU.

Yours sincerely,
TOM MACDONALD,
Canadian High Commission,
Macdonald House,
1 Grosvenor Square, W1
February 18.

Comprehensive cover

From Mr Wolfram Waldner

Sir, Clause 29 of the terms and conditions of *The Times* Luthansa flight offer (February 22) excludes liability for failure to comply in the event of weather conditions, fire, flood, strike, hurricane, industrial dispute, war, hostilities, political unrest, riot, civil commotion, inevitable accidents, acts of God.

It seems to me that there is very little room for the Almighty left in this catalogue of mishaps.

Yours sincerely,
WOLFRAM WALDNER,
20 Grove Street,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
February 22.

'Majorite rigidity' on devolution

From Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, OM

Sir, I agree with those who say that in his speech last Thursday, Mr Blair did not answer the West Lothian question (letters, February 15, 21). This is not surprising for it is fundamentally unanswerable. Mr Dailly shot a powerful arrow in the 1970s.

The point was equally unanswerable in relation to Irish Home Rule. In 1885 Gladstone first proposed that the analogous question should be responded to by retaining Irish members at Westminster "for imperial purposes only". Then, when the 1886 Bill came to be drafted, he was persuaded, mainly by Cabinet colleagues, that they ought to be out. By May of that year he was again persuaded that they ought to be in, and announced his willingness to amend the Bill accordingly.

Joseph Chamberlain, the Bill's decisive opponent, moved in precisely the opposite direction. In January he thought the worst possible solution was a parliament in Dublin and Irish members at Westminster. By June he made their exclusion from the imperial parliament his major argument against the Bill.

The 1893 Bill, on the other hand, began with the proposed retention of 80 Irish members at Westminster, but with them excluded from voting on purely English or Scottish questions. The frontier however proved indefensible because not satisfactorily definable, and was abandoned (in favour of giving them full rights) at the committee stage.

There are therefore very respectable precedents — indeed the two successive most dominating parliamentarians of a classic quarter century in the history of the House of Commons — for perplexity on the issue.

This is far from saying that the intricacies of the West Lothian question provide an adequate excuse for immobilism towards the wishes of the non-English components of the British Isles. Can anyone now doubt that with the defeat of Gladstone's home rule Bills there perished the last hope of Anglo-Irish reconciliation within a

British polity?

I do not know whether, had one of these Bills gone through, a loose union would have held. Already it had 200 years of history against it. But I am certain that with their defeat the opposite became inevitable, and has brought in its train much danger and destruction.

The Anglo-Scottish union has been a great deal more securely anchored. But I am for the first time persuaded that, if a Conservative government were to be returned and were to maintain an attitude of uncompromising negativism towards Scotland, and were at the same time to move further to a little-England chauvinism towards Europe, the 1707 union would be in danger.

The pull of the great success of Ireland in Europe should not be underestimated. It is not merely material (although on some counts the Irish national income per head is already above the British, a concept inconceivable a couple of decades ago), but psychologically and nationally liberating in the context of Ireland's regularity and consequent influence, beyond its natural weight in European councils.

I consequently believe that if Majorite rigidity were to persist there is a real danger of Scottish independence within ten years, an outcome which I would regard as a grave misfortune for those on both sides of the border.

Compared with this the West Lothian question, nearly unanswerable although it is, falls into insignificance. The awkwardness would have had to be accepted if Irish home rule had saved the entity of the British Isles. It has been accepted by successive Conservative governments for Northern Ireland. It had better be accepted for Scotland (perhaps with some reduction in the number of Scottish seats at Westminster) if 290 years of mutually beneficial union is not to be put at grave risk.

Yours faithfully,
ROY JENKINS,
House of Lords.
February 24.

Sex Offenders Bill

From the Director of Liberty

Sir, You reported on February 20 that the number of people to be placed on the sex offenders register by the proposed Sex Offenders Bill threatens its viability. Liberty has been concerned for a considerable time that the register will be unworkable. Blanket registration of sex offenders will mean that the police will not be able to effectively exercise control, and it should be noted that no extra resources are being made available. Additionally, the current proposals will include some consensual gay offences and other individuals who pose no risk to children.

Surely the answer to the problem is the one proposed some time ago by Liberty in its response to this Bill — that automatic inclusion on the register should be dropped. Instead we propose that, at the time of sentencing,

the judge should decide whether or not offenders are a risk to children and only if they are should they be put on the register. The judge will know the details of the facts of the case as well as the previous convictions of the offender and is in the best position to resolve this assessment.

In sentencing sex offenders the judge will have psychiatric and other reports which would help with this assessment and could also decide at the same time how long the offender should be on the register.

Such a mechanism would not only protect those who are at risk to children from being on the register but also ensure that precious police resources are targeted towards those who are most dangerous.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WADHAM,
Director, Liberty,
21 Tabard Street, SE1
February 20.

Dickens statue

From Mrs Sara Lane

Sir, Professor Tony Pounton, chairman of the Charles Dickens fan club at Portsmouth University, appears to think that because the other wishes Dickens expressed in his will have already been denied him, this enables his admirers to contravene yet another firmly-expressed wish by erecting a statue in Portsmouth, where the author was born in 1812 and which he left as a toddler in 1814 (report, February 19).

But two wrongs do not make a right. The International Dickens Fellowship and the Dickens Fellowship, as well as Professor Pounton, all suggest that Dickens wanted his expressed wishes to be disregarded. But what grounds do they have for this?

Is it not more probable that Dickens (like other people who make will) meant exactly what he said in his will as well as disliking humbug and hypocrisy, Dickens had something of a distaste for images and, since the secretary of the Dickens Fellowship invokes *Martin Chuzzlewit*, it is not

worth noting that Dickens's illustrious Phiz consistently depicts Pecksniff surrounded by busts and portraits of himself?

Yours faithfully,
SARA LANE,
6 Montagu Square, W1.
February 19.

From Mr C. C. Dickens

Sir, As a great-great-grandson, who can claim to be head of the Dickens family in the direct line, I am concerned about the proposed statue. Charles Dickens specifically wrote in his will: "on no account make me the subject of any monument, memorial or testimonial whatever."

The International Dickens Fellowship is well admired and old-established but I feel it should adhere to Charles Dickens's expressed wishes and oppose Portsmouth's decision.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER CHARLES DICKENS,
The Old Rectory, Spofforth,
Harrogate, North Yorkshire.
February 19.

Women in Church

From Mr David Gedge

Sir, The Reverend M. E. Percival (letter, February 19) asks how many men have been appointed minor canons six months after their ordination as priest. Here at Brecon Cathedral it has long been customary for deacons to be appointed minor canons, a year before their ordination to the priesthood.

Some seem to think that a minor canon is a senior position but, at least here in Wales, a minor canon is often no more than a curate attached to a cathedral.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GEDGE
(Organist, Brecon Cathedral),
Garth Cottage,
29 Pendre, Brecon, Powys.
February 19.

Business letters, page 29

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Call for debate on plight of elderly

From Rabbi Julia Neuberger

Sir, The challenge to the political parties from the chairman of the Continuing Care Conference and others (letter, February 19), asking for attention to be given to continuing care, came as welcome reading to those, like myself, who have seen how fear of the future blights the present lives of many elderly, and not so elderly, people.

Whilst many people in their thirties and forties expect to have to pay their way by saving now for insurance for long-term care later on, that cannot be the case for older people, who used to believe that the NHS would look after them from the cradle to the grave.

The London NHS trust which I chair provides many services for elderly people at home and various forms of in-patient care. So do others. But long-term care is largely no longer provided within the NHS and does not come free at the point of use: a change which has happened gradually and to which politicians have not wanted to draw attention because of the cost implications.

This is clearly a time for asking politicians what they intend to do and for holding cross-party and non-partisan discussions about the way forward. It may be one of the many pressing social issues that citizens' juries could be asked to address, as well as a royal commission.

It may also be something that community groups of all kinds have views about. A national discussion of our obligations to the elderly and the standards of care which they should expect is long overdue.

Yours sincerely,
JULIA NEUBERGER,
28 Regent's Park Road, NW1.
February 20.

From Mr John Papworth

Sir, Oh dear, here is another group of well-intentioned people calling for yet another national programme based on government funding.

Please tell them that the care of aged persons (I am one myself) is an emphatically local community and neighbourhood concern and that we forfeit our dignity, our independence, our self-esteem and ultimately our freedom to be responsible citizens if we adopt a cast of mind which assumes we must constantly call on the Government to spoon-feed us in regard to problems we are fully able to resolve for ourselves.

With respect,
JOHN PAPWORTH
(Editor), *Fourth World Review*,
24 Abercorn Place, NW8.
February 19.

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, The sub-heading on Joe Joseph's piece (February 13) is quite correct: "age" should not be measured in years; and he is right that "history is chock-full of people... who often only began making any noise at all after their peers were drawing pensions".

However, with millions of people like me being made redundant in their fifties or taking voluntary (or involuntary) early retirement, are we not in great danger of losing the very innovative and creative talents that Joe Joseph (and the facts) tell us last well beyond normal retirement age?

Can we really afford as a nation to neglect a whole generation of human capital?

Yours, not over the hill yet,
JOHN RAYBOULD,
3 Chestnut Court, High Street,
Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex.
February 19.

Seasonal variations

From Mr John Taylor

Sir, Some years ago American Airlines gave this notice to their passengers:

The Vatican has granted special dispensation to Roman Catholics on American Airlines from the obligation of abstinence on all Fridays and other days of abstinence. On future flights, should you prefer seafood, please make this known at the time of making your reservation. We will be glad to accommodate you.

Perhaps British Airways could ask for a similar dispensation (letters, February 17, 24) if there was any doubt about serving alcohol during Lent.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN TAYLOR,
Castell Gym,
Llanbedr, Ruthin, Clwyd.

Stops and starts

From Prebendary Dr Chad Varah

Sir, Mr Tom Courtenay (letter, February 22) confuses two different uses of the word "train". In itself, it is a locomotive with a number of carriages or wagons in "train". Operationally it means, eg, the 14:48 from Paddington to Oxford.

On arrival, this particular use of the train terminates. It soon becomes a different train, or the collection of coaches or wagons may be shuffled.

The train in its existential sense will terminate only when the locomotive and all its "train" have gone severally to the scrapyard: in about 100 years, on past form.

Yours etc,
CHAD VARAH
(Rector), St Stephen Walbrook,
39 Walbrook, EC4.
February 23.

OBITUARIES

EMILY HAHN

Emily Hahn, American writer and adventurer, died on February 18 aged 92. She was born on January 14, 1905.

In the depths of the Great Depression, Emily Hahn left a \$25-a-week teaching job in New York to run off to the Belgian Congo in search of adventure. A concerned male colleague cautioned her to "be careful": Africa was no place for a woman.

"I still don't know what he meant," Hahn told an interviewer many years later. "Careful" was never part of her vocabulary: given a choice, she always chose the uncertain path.

Hahn, who for many years lived partly in Britain with her husband, the historian Charles R. Boxer, was an adventurer, a feminist, the author of more than fifty books, and a prolific and longstanding contributor to *The New Yorker* magazine. She came to prominence in the 1940s through her writings about China. She had been on both sides of the Atlantic with *The Song Sisters* (1941), a biography of the Middle Kingdom's "first family" of the pre-revolutionary era, and *China to Me* (1944), a candid and irreverent memoir which chronicled Hahn's free-wheeling wartime adventures in the Far East.

Hahn wrote in an extraordinary variety of genres: biography, history, humour, women's issues, travel, cooking, children's literature, fiction and natural history. Her refusal to be pigeonholed may help to explain why, apart from the success of her China books, she never found the mass audience she deserved.

If she was bitter about this, it was never apparent, though she sometimes recalled something her friend and mentor Rebecca West once told her: "If you and I had been born male and had written what we've written, we'd be a lot better-known."

Although Hahn's informal, personalised literary style was distinctly hers, it was also the quintessential New Yorker voice. During her 69-year career as a contributor, she was one of a handful of writers who worked for all four editors of the magazine — Harold Ross, William Shawn, Robert Gottlieb and Tina Brown.

Emily Hahn never wanted to be a writer. She was born into a Jewish-German family in St Louis, Missouri, the seventh of eight children of whom only six survived infancy. Her father, Isaac Newton Hahn, a hardware salesman, was an atheist who read passages from the Bible to his children so that he could point out inconsistencies. Her mother, Hannah, née Schoen, was a committed suffragette who rode a bicycle while wearing bloomers and persisted in her career aspirations even after marriage. The Hahn children



were encouraged to write and think critically from an early age.

In 1922 Emily Hahn caused a furore when she was the first woman to enrol in the faculty of mining engineering at the University of Wisconsin. She had planned to study English literature, but changed her mind when a professor told her that women were "incapable of grasping mechanics or higher mathematics".

After graduating, Hahn worked in turn as an oil geologist, a greetings-card writer and as a guide on horseback expeditions into the New Mexico wilderness. In 1928 she moved to New York to begin writing seriously. Her first *New Yorker* piece, published in the spring of 1929, were actually letters to her brother-in-law in Chicago.

Without her knowledge, he removed the salutations and submitted them to *The New Yorker*.

Hahn's first book appeared in 1930, *Seduction to Absurdum: The Principles and Practices of Seduction* — a *Beginner's Handbook*, was a satirical look at male-female relationships.

In 1931 she ran away to the Belgian Congo, where she spent two years at a Red Cross medical outpost working among African pygmies. She wrote about her experiences in a lively travel book called *Congo Solo: Misadventures Two Degrees North* (1933) and the novel *With Naked Foot* (1934), which took a critical look at European exploitation of Africa and its native population. Both books were in many ways ahead of their time, and neither

brought the breakthrough she craved. The same was true of her novel *Affair* (1935), which dealt with alienated youth and the question of abortion.

In the spring of 1935 Hahn ran away again, this time to the Far East. She spent four years in Shanghai, where she scandalised the European community by becoming the concubine of a Chinese poet named Sunway Zau. It was through Zau that she met Communist revolutionaries such as Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai, and the Soong sisters, about whom she later wrote. She also became addicted to opium.

On the eve of the Pacific war she created yet another scandal by falling in love with Major Charles Boxer, a married British officer who headed Army intelligence in Hong Kong. A few weeks before Pearl Harbor, Hahn gave birth to Boxer's child, a daughter they named Carola.

When Boxer was wounded in the attack on Hong Kong and subsequently became a POW, Hahn convinced Japanese officials she was Eurasian, so as to remain free to carry food parcels to Boxer and other starving POWs. She also got involved in underground relief work.

Hahn and her daughter were repatriated to the US in a 1943 exchange of prisoners. After the war she married Boxer. They subsequently had another daughter, Amanda, who lives and works in London as an actress.

From the late 1940s onwards the Boxers maintained an unconventional marriage: he lived near Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, while she settled in New York. Each summer she travelled to Britain to be with her husband for 91 days — the maximum residency period allowable before she was required to pay British taxes.

Throughout her years at *The New Yorker*, Hahn was one of the magazine's most prolific writers. She often acted as a roving correspondent, filing reports that were as far-flung as they were eclectic: Hahn wrote about everything from angels and rabbis to diamonds and maharajahs.

In her later career, she wrote several books about zoology. Apes were one of her favorite topics: she kept pet gibbons in Hong Kong and Shanghai, where she created a stir by outfitting her simian companion, Mr Mills, in a tailored mink suit.

Emily Hahn went to her New York office each working day until just a few weeks before her death. She continued to be an occasional contributor to that magazine and to others. Her most recent article, about her daughter Amanda's dog, appears in the current issue of the British publication *Dogs Today*.

Hahn is survived by her husband and her two daughters.

ALAN ELLIOT-SMITH

Alan Elliot-Smith, CBE, Headmaster of Cheltenham College, 1940-51, died on February 10 aged 92. He was born on June 30, 1904.



A NOTABLE headmaster, Alan Elliot-Smith played a leading part in the liberalisation of traditional public school education. As Headmaster of Cheltenham College during and after the Second World War he brought about reforms in customs remaining from the last century. He was among the first to stop the caning of boys by more senior boys and tried to replace imposed discipline by self-discipline.

Known to his friends simply as Elliot, Alan Guy Elliot-Smith spent all his adult life in education. After Charterhouse and Oriel College, Oxford, where he read modern languages, he was appointed an assistant master at Harrow, where he remained for 15 years. His subjects were languages and literature and, although he did not take part in team games, he played tennis and fives. He tried to broaden horizons, taking parties of boys abroad in the holidays and, for several years, he was a committed member of the Harrow Urban District Council.

While at Harrow he married Ruth Kittermaster, whose friendliness and small, brisk person complemented her more imposing husband. Even when young, Elliot-Smith had a commanding presence: tall and well-built, with a high-browed nose and sharply inquiring eyes. He was clearly headmaster material, but when chosen as such by Cheltenham College it was found that he had never been confirmed in the Church of England, and this had to be attended to before he could be named as headmaster in 1940.

Immediately, he faced problems peculiar to wartime, with the help of an outstanding bursar, Rollo Pelly, Cheltenham College had been evacuated to Shrewsbury and had to be returned to its own buildings. There were shortages of food and clothing, so Elliot-Smith dressed his boys in boiler suits and introduced communal catering.

There was a shortage of teaching staff as the younger

masters were called to war service and he was eclectic in his recruitment. His choices included a pacifist (who did not proclaim his beliefs in wartime), women teachers, the Hampstead intellectual Paul Bloomfield and Guy Pocock, who had retired from a career in publishing and at the BBC.

The system of education was changing and Cheltenham's traditional departments — Classical and Military — were phased out. Then and after the war, Elliot-Smith changed teaching methods towards university practice, based on weekly rather than hourly programmes. In wartime the boys were expected to help with domestic work and grow vegetables. He encouraged self-discipline but had to keep a rein on some liberal reform, as when a theatrical revue staged by two of the boys, Lindsay Anderson and Gavin Lambert (the future film director and writer, respectively) was thought to be in bad taste by parents. He introduced sex education by visiting lecturers.

Elliot-Smith's many reforms and much-needed modernisation ran foul of the Old Cheltenhamian Society then dominated by a peppery retired major-general. He waged a rude and damaging war against the headmaster, until rebuked by a more senior Old Cheltenhamian, General Sir Alan Cunningham, who told him: "When your name gets the kind of roar that Elliot's does, I will take some notice of you. Until then, I should be glad if you would dry up."

Five years after the end of the war, Elliot-Smith was regarded as a high-flyer who would probably move to one of the major public schools, or an Oxbridge college. So his resignation in 1951 and his next choice of employment came as a shock.

At the urging of the British Council, he became headmaster of an Egyptian version of the English public school, Victoria College at Maadi, outside Cairo. Having no children of his own, Elliot-Smith had been feeling restless, wanted a change and saw the job of educating the future leaders of the Middle East as a worthwhile challenge.

The Elliot-Smiths moved all their belongings — furniture, pictures and books — to Egypt in 1952, the year of the anti-British riots in Cairo arising from tensions over the continued British occupation of the Suez Canal Zone. But he persevered and his efforts to promote Anglo-Egyptian relations led to his appointment as CBE. Then came the Suez crisis and the Elliot-Smiths, together with the other expatriates, were summarily expelled. Allowed to take one suitcase each, they had to abandon and leave all their belongings, including his library of four thousand books.

On his return, Elliot-Smith sat on various educational bodies and for a year was the West Africa Committee's representative in Nigeria before being appointed Headmaster of Markham College in Lima, Peru, in 1960. Three years later he returned to England and bought a house in the suburbs of Eastbourne. Here he spent his long retirement, taking up book-binding, sometimes visited by his former pupils and cheered by the positive, cheerful attitude of his wife, who survives him.

SIR FRANK HARTLEY

Sir Frank Hartley, CBE, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, University of London, 1962-76, died on January 26 aged 86. He was born on January 5, 1911.



AMONG his many notable achievements as a pharmacist, Sir Frank Hartley supervised the early development of the contraceptive pill. As director of research at British Drug Houses he guided the development of the first pill to clinical assessment, though side-effects prevented its being marketed.

There was hardly a facet of pharmacy his career did not touch. He was of an age when entry to the field was through a three-year apprenticeship and evening study for a diploma (as "chemist and druggist"). He then enrolled for the higher diploma of "pharmaceutical chemist". He achieved the latter in 1930 and registered as a pharmacist in 1932.

His bias was towards chemistry and combined an appointment as a research assistant at the School of Pharmacy, then in Bloomsbury Square, with study at Birkbeck College. He took a first in chemistry in 1934 and a PhD in 1940. The route to higher degrees in pharmacy is much simplified now, but the long haul from apprenticeship to doctorate, achieved by working all the hours that were available on little money, gave the pharmaceutical scientists of Hartley's generation unri-

valled experience. It perhaps explains why, at the young age of 29, Hartley was able to join the Dutch firm of Organon as chief chemist of its operation in Britain.

Organon is a major pharmaceutical manufacturer of steroid hormones. Hartley's experience with the firm was later to lead to work with British Drug Houses and his involvement with the earliest generation of oral contraceptive steroids.

War brought a need for greater quantities of antibiotics and led to the formation of the Therapeutic Research Corporation to co-ordinate efforts in antibiotic production; Hartley was appointed its secretary and secretary to the Ministry of Supply's General Penicillin Committee.

At the end of the war he was appointed director of research of British Drug Houses, where he did his work on the contraceptive pill. He was a member of the Committee on Safety of Drugs, the predecessor of the Committee on Safety of Medicines, in 1963-70. Hartley also made significant contributions to those essential but little understood compendiums of standards of pharmaceuticals such as the *British Pharmacopoeia* ("the BP"), known throughout the world as the repository and guardian of standards of purity and quality of drugs and medicines. He was for a time chairman of the BP Commission. On the *European Pharmacopoeia* he made

considerable inroads into modernising its approach to the development of standards suitable for the 20th century.

In 1962 he moved from industry to academia, succeeding Professor Linnell as Dean of the School of Pharmacy of the University of London. His forte latterly was as a committee man, but one who could shape events, especially as a thoughtful, well-prepared chairman of the Chelsea

He was appointed deputy vice-chancellor of the University in 1973 and in 1976-78 was Vice-Chancellor. He was knighted for his services to pharmacy in 1977, having been appointed CBE in 1970. He received numerous honours, fellowships and honorary degrees.

In 1962 he became President of the Royal Institute of Chemistry. It was at that time, however, that he lost some

friends who felt that he should have been more partial to his primary discipline when the issue of the "qualified person" was being discussed. In continental Europe every pharmaceutical manufacturer has to have a pharmacist with overall authority for production of medicines — the so-called "qualified person". This is not the case in Britain, where chemists and biologists are allowed to fulfil this statutory function. Colleagues felt that as a pharmacist Hartley might have pressed the claims of his own discipline to bring Britain into line with what is regarded as a sensible continental practice.

After retirement from university service, Hartley still gave of his time and expertise in an elder statesman capacity to the university and its colleges. He maintained his interest in the School of Pharmacy and in the activities of his successor deans. Nerves at the school were jangled in 1982 when a university working party explored its amalgamation with the Chelsea Department of Pharmacy and the relocation of the combined operation to the Tooting site of St George's Hospital and Medical School. Hartley was very much for the marriage, but the working party decided against it.

Hartley's wife Lydia recently predeceased him. He leaves two sons: one, Peter, a canon in the Church of England, and the other, Frank, now Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield.

THE POLISH REVOLUTION.

(FROM OUR VIENNA CORRESPONDENT.)

VIENNA, FEB. 21. On the 13th inst. some Cossacks, who were in pursuit of two mounted Polish fugitives, violated the Austrian frontier near Ulanow, a small town in the north-east of Russia, the capital of a Galician "circle" of the same name. One of the fugitives, a Roman Catholic priest, fell from his horse, and was wounded by the Cossacks, but both he and his companion managed to reach Ulanow, where they were protected by the local authorities. On the following day a Russian detachment, under the command of a captain, appeared at Ulanow, which is about three English miles from the frontier, and demanded the immediate extradition of the fugitives. A long and angry discussion ensued, and the matter ended by the Russian soldiers being escorted to the frontier by some Austrian gendarmes and Customs-house officers. "The Russians were not disarmed, as the inhabitants of Ulanow displayed an inclination to make short work with the murderers of their Polish brethren." Volleys of stones were thrown at the retreating Russians, who cursed the Austrian authorities, and promised to return and set fire to the town of Ulanow. No demand for satisfaction has yet been made, but it is not to

ON THIS DAY

February 25, 1863

Between 1772 and 1795 Poland suffered three partitions at the hands of Russia, Prussia and Austria. In 1831 it became a province of Russia; repression brought the Poles to revolt but their ill-armed forces were never a match for the Russian troops.

It was supposed that the Emperor of Austria would allow his territories to be violated with impunity. When the Russians, under Prince Bagration, took possession of Ojcow, which they did without a single blow being struck, they put several of the inhabitants of the place to the sword, and then plundered their houses. Three villages in the neighbourhood of Ojcow had also been sacked, and we in-day learn from Cracow that 40 wounded men, who were being transported from Miechow to that city, were cruelly murdered by the Russians. When the Russians got possession of Sieniew-Krzysz, on

the 12th inst., they found Morcau, who was to have been shot for treacherously leading a detachment of sithemen into an ambush, locked up in a room in the convent. The insurgent corps under Langiewicz is still near Staszow (to the south-west of Sandomierz), and is said to have several iron guns. On the 15th inst. the Russians advanced against Langiewicz, who retreated in the direction of Slobitzka. The Russians followed up their supposed advantage, but they fell into an ambush, and were for a time exposed to a very heavy fire of grapeshot. When in disorder, the Russians were attacked by about a thousand sithemen, who did great execution with their ungainly but formidable weapon. It is said that the first troops to enter the town of Miechow on the 15th inst. were Polish lancers. The insurgents under Kucowski, who had 130 killed and 200 wounded, had no artillery. Many Galicians who had gone to Poland to assist their suffering fellow-countrymen, and were forced to return, are now under the surveillance of the police, and they will be brought to trial on a charge of having aided and abetted the subjects of a foreign potentate in an attempt to change the existing order of things. The insurgents are still in Polish Dobrowna, where they are busily employed in casting and boring guns.

WINTER SPORTS

WEEKEND & Term-time skiing, snow, etc. White Star, 0171 752 1188. Arctic, 3585.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RENTALS: best for musical. Mr. Smith moved his shop on. 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

WEEKEND & Term-time skiing, snow, etc. White Star, 0171 752 1188. Arctic, 3585.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RENTALS: best for musical. Mr. Smith moved his shop on. 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLIGHTS

WEEKEND & Term-time skiing, snow, etc. White Star, 0171 752 1188. Arctic, 3585.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RENTALS: best for musical. Mr. Smith moved his shop on. 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLATSHARE

BATSFORD Post, 2 bed flat, close to station, 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171 497 000.

FLIGHTS

WEEKEND & Term-time skiing, snow, etc. White Star, 0171 752 1188. Arctic, 3585.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

RENTALS: best for musical. Mr. Smith moved his shop on. 100, Tottenham Court Road, W1P 0LP. Phone: 0171

Court of Appeal

Executors can claim after settlement

Jameson and Another v Central Electricity Generating Board and Another
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Auld and Sir Patrick Russell

Judgment February 13
A plaintiff accepting a payment "in full and final settlement and satisfaction" of his claim in a personal injury action did not thereby bar his executors from proceeding with a dependency claim after his death against a concurrent tortfeasor.

The release of one concurrent tortfeasor, whether by judgment or by settlement, only released another concurrent tortfeasor if the settlement amounted to a payment of the full value of the claim.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing two appeals by the defendants, Central Electricity Generating Board and Babcock Energy Ltd, from the judgment on preliminary issues of Sir Hayden Tudor Evans, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division in March 1995, holding:

1 In favour of the plaintiffs, the executors of the estate of David A. Jameson, deceased, in their claim against CEGB for damages for loss of dependency under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 and

2 That in the event of the plaintiffs succeeding in that claim CEGB was entitled to claim against Babcock for a contribution under the Civil Liability (Contribution) Act 1978.

Mr Ian McLaren, QC, for CEGB; Mr William Woodward, QC and Miss Elizabeth Hodgson for Babcock; Mr Ronald Walker,

QC and Mr Anthony Coleman for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE AULD said that Mr Jameson died in 1988 at the age of 30 from malignant mesothelioma. Shortly before his death he had agreed to accept £80,000 from Babcock, his former employer, in "full and final settlement" of his claim in negligence/breach of statutory duty causing that disease by exposing him to asbestos.

The £80,000 was significantly less than the full liability value of his claim, reflecting the parties' appreciation of the uncertainty of the outcome of litigation.

Mr Jameson's claim against Babcock was that the harmful exposure had occurred at various places it had employed him, including those of CEGB, at which Babcock was undertaking work.

After Mr Jameson's death the plaintiffs, his executors, had issued proceedings against CEGB under the 1976 Act in respect of the same exposure to asbestos as for part of the claim in the settled action against Babcock, alleging similar, but not identical, negligence and breach of statutory duty.

CEGB maintained it could not be liable because Mr Jameson's settlement with Babcock had satisfied his claim and had thus discharged any claim he might have had against CEGB as a concurrent tortfeasor.

CEGB joined Babcock as a third party to the action, who similarly resisted that claim and also maintained that a claim under the 1976 Act in such circumstances was not within the provisions of the 1978 Act.

The first issue, whether release

by judgment or settlement of one tortfeasor discharged a concurrent tortfeasor, required consideration of the separate defences of accord and satisfaction and of satisfaction.

The judge had held that a settlement by one concurrent tortfeasor only released another concurrent tortfeasor if it amounted to a payment of the full value of the claim. Accordingly, he held that Mr Jameson's settlement with Babcock for less than his claimed whole loss had not released CEGB from any liability it might have had.

The rule that accord and satisfaction, as distinct from a covenant not to sue, operated as a release for joint tortfeasors was well established. The cause of action against Babcock was one and the same as against CEGB. The release of Babcock was a release of the claim against CEGB as a joint tortfeasor, not as a joint tortfeasor which was in retreat.

The principle to be extracted from the authorities was that accord and satisfaction reached without full satisfaction released a concurrent tortfeasor. That was because the latter was a defendant or a potential defendant to a separate action.

Satisfaction was different from that of accord and satisfaction. It had to be full satisfaction and it had to be given, executed, its basis

was the simple one that a claimant should not receive more than was necessary to compensate him for the wrong done.

Mr McLaren and Mr Woodward, relying on *Apley Estates and a Scottish case, Carrigan v Duncan* (1971) 1 SLT (Sh) 33, submitted that a settlement with one tortfeasor expressed to be in full and final settlement should be regarded as full satisfaction so as to bar an action against a concurrent tortfeasor.

The plaintiffs submitted that the defence of satisfaction was only available where the claimant had been fully compensated in accordance with his claims for the wrongs done to him.

Such guidance as could be found from the authorities, see *Clark v Uniphart* (1993) AC 28; *United Australia Ltd v Barclays Bank Ltd* (1941) AC 1; *Byrington Finance Ltd v Vries* (1975) 1 QB 703 and (1981) 1 WLR 1153; and *Townsend v Stone Tools and Partners No 2* (1984) 27 BLR 26, indicated that satisfaction was a practical and objective test, dependent on the result of it, by which a defendant simply said that the plaintiff had already been fully compensated, for the wrong for which he claimed damages.

Satisfaction had to be executed: it was available where the plaintiff had received the full value of his claim.

Here the judge found that the £80,000 did not represent the full value of Mr Jameson's claim against Babcock on a full liability basis. He was not bound to equate full satisfaction with a figure acceptable to both parties representing their

assessment of the risks of the litigation.

It was a finding he was entitled to make. Accordingly, receipt by Mr Jameson of the £80,000 could not bar his executors from proceeding with their claim.

By section 1(1) of the 1978 Act "any person liable in respect of any damage suffered by another person may recover contribution from any other person liable in respect of the same damage".

CEGB maintained that if it failed in its other arguments, it was entitled by virtue of that provision to a contribution from Babcock because their respective liabilities were "in respect of the same damage".

Mr Woodward contended there was no "same damage" for the purposes of section 1(1) because the injury or damage in an action under the 1976 Act was not that suffered by the deceased before he died but only that suffered by his dependants on and as a result of his death.

That argument confused "damage" as it was used in the 1978 Act with "damages" in the normal sense of compensation. The correct interpretation of the 1978 Act was that provided by Mr McLaren: the relevant damage was the alleged wrong that caused injury and death to Mr Jameson and that the action by the executors was a derivative one "in respect of the same damage".

Solicitors: Dibb Lupton Brookman, Birmingham; Hexall Brinkley & Co; Payne Marsh Stillwell, Southampton.

Balance of convenience test not apt for interim relief

Regina v Secretary of State for Health, Ex parte Generics (UK) Ltd and Another
Regina v Same, Ex parte E. R. Squibb and Sons Ltd and Another

Before Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Schiemann

Judgment February 20
In a case where each of two competing applicants for judicial review would be deprived of a financial asset which it was in the public interest they should have, the usual principles by which the court assessed the balance of convenience did not apply in determining whether or not to grant interim relief.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing separate appeals by the defendants, Generics (UK) Ltd and E. R. Squibb and Sons Ltd against the refusal by Mr Justice Owen on December 20, 1996 of their applications for interim relief in actions for judicial review of a decision of the licensing authority established by the Medicines Act 1968 to grant Generics (UK) Ltd a licence to market the drug, Captropil, for myoclonic infarction.

Mr Gerald Barling, QC and Ms Sarah Lee for Generics; Mr Geoffrey Hobbs, QC and Mr Nicholas Green for Squibb; Mr David Pannick, QC and Ms Dinah Rose for the Secretary of State.

LORD JUSTICE SCHIEMANN said the appeal concerned with interim relief in applications for judicial review. The judicial review proceedings had been adjourned on a reference to the European Court of Justice for a preliminary ruling which was unlikely to be given until 1998.

The regime for granting licences for marketing medicinal products was to be found in Directive 65/65/EEC (OJ No 22 February 9, 1965), as amended by Directive 87/21/EEC (OJ No 12/15/86). The

relevant article of that directive was susceptible of at least three interpretations, the authority's interpretation, the Generics interpretation, and the Squibb interpretation.

Squibb, the initiator of the drug and already licensed to market and already licensed to market, had challenged by judicial proceedings the authority's decision to award a similar licence to Generics. Generics had intervened to support the authority in those proceedings.

The authority had refused Generics a licence to market the drug for diabetic neuropathy, for which Squibb was licensed.

Generics had challenged that decision by way of judicial review, and Squibb had intervened in those proceedings to support the authority's refusal.

Broadly speaking, the Squibb interpretation of Directive 65/65/EEC achieved the maximum market advantage for the initiator of the

drug, the Generics interpretation the maximum advantage to the would-be competitor.

The authority's interpretation favoured the initiator where the new indication was far from the existing indications and the competitors where the new indication was close to the existing indications.

Generics would fail in their challenge to the authority if the European Court upheld either the authority's interpretation or the Squibb interpretation. Squibb would fail if either the authority's interpretation or the Generics interpretation was upheld.

The judge had left it inappropriate to express a view on the merits of the three interpretations and refused even as a matter of interim relief to disturb the authority's decision.

The net result was the court had to proceed on the basis that each of the three rival interpretations had an equal chance of success before

the European Court.

The principles in *American Cyanamid v Ethicon Ltd* (1975) AC 396 had no immediate application. The court was in the unusual position that the relevant probabilities were presented to it as given.

Nor was the concept of "justice" easy to apply. In each set of probabilities a "wrong" decision to refuse an injunction would deprive one party of a financial asset which it was, hypothetically, in the public interest they should have.

A "wrong" decision to grant an injunction deprived the other of a similar financial asset.

The very issue which had been referred to the European Court was which of the two facts of the public interest should prevail. In those circumstances it would be wrong for the court to seek to lay down any general rule that in public interest cases one of those public interests should prevail over the other.

Although it was in general useful in cases involving the grant of interim relief to talk of "balance of convenience", and "justice" those were not apt concepts when considering the exercise of the court's discretion in the highly unusual circumstances of the appeal.

Lord Justice Hirst and Lord Justice Aldous agreed.

Solicitors: S. J. Berwin & Co; McKenna & Co Solicitors, Department of Health.

Councils entitled to deal over boundary change

Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Sutton London Borough Council
Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice Phillips

Judgment February 7
Local authorities were empowered by section 68 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make agreements with respect to their rights affected by boundary changes.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Croydon London Borough Council against a determination of Mr Justice Potts of a preliminary issue on an application by Sutton London Borough Council to quash a decision of the Secretary of State for the Environment made on January 15, 1995.

Mr Michael Barnes, QC and Mr Nicholas Taggart for Croydon; Mr Alan Wilkie, QC and Mr Nigel Giffin for Sutton.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that the secretary of state had declined to appoint an arbitrator pursuant to section 68(1) of the 1972 Act to resolve a dispute between Sutton and Croydon.

The dispute arose out of an alteration to the boundary between the boroughs made by section 68(1) of the 1972 Act in an action under the 1976 Act was not that suffered by the deceased before he died but only that suffered by his dependants on and as a result of his death.

That argument confused "damage" as it was used in the 1978 Act with "damages" in the normal sense of compensation. The correct interpretation of the 1978 Act was that provided by Mr McLaren: the relevant damage was the alleged wrong that caused injury and death to Mr Jameson and that the action by the executors was a derivative one "in respect of the same damage".

Solicitors: Dibb Lupton Brookman, Birmingham; Hexall Brinkley & Co; Payne Marsh Stillwell, Southampton.

rent from tenants. The order had the effect of vesting the properties in Croydon. That occurred by reason of regulation 62(2) of and Schedule 6 to the Local Government Areas Changes Regulations (SI 1976 No 240).

The preliminary question was whether the boroughs were entitled to make an agreement with respect to the properties under section 68 of the 1972 Act. Sutton sought an agreement that it should become owner of the properties and receive compensation in lieu.

It was common ground that if section 68 did empower the boroughs to make such an agreement Sutton was entitled in default of agreement to require the secretary of state to appoint an arbitrator to determine the dispute.

Section 68 provided: "(1) Any public bodies affected by the alteration... of any area by an order under... this Act may from time to time make arrangements with respect to property, income, rights... and any financial relations between the parties to the agreement... (3) In default of agreement as to any matter, the matter shall be referred to the arbitration of a single arbitrator... appointed by the secretary of state..."

It was common ground that section 68, considered alone, empowered the boroughs to make an agreement for the transfer to Sutton of the properties. Croydon contended, however, that read with section 67 of the Act and the regulations made thereunder section 68 gave no such power.

Section 67 provided: "(1) The secretary of state may by regulations... provision as may appear to him to be necessary or proper for the purposes or in consequence of orders under this Part of this Act..."

The 1976 Regulations were made

by the secretary of state in exercise of the powers in section 67 and the effect of regulation 62(2) and Schedule 6 was that the order of the 1993 Order made the vesting in [Croydon] of the properties...

Mr Barnes submitted that the effect of regulation 62(2) was to exclude the power of the parties to make an agreement under section 68; and that the effect of the exclusion was to render the transfer effected by regulation 62(2) final.

His Lordship saw, in the scheme of the legislation, two statutory intentions which did not need to be in competition.

The first, in the interests of fairness to local authorities and their inhabitants when boundary changes occurred, was to provide an independent procedure for the fair resolution of disputes.

The second, met by regulation 62(2), was to ensure that there was no doubt where title to public property rested at the moment an order effecting a boundary change took effect.

Regulation 62(2) began by describing itself as "provision made... without prejudice to..." his intention was to confirm existing powers in circumstances where they might otherwise have been argued to be restricted.

The paragraph was not intended to have the drastic effect for which Croydon contended. There was nothing inconsistent between the statutory transfer effected by regulation 62(2) and the continued exercise of the section 68 powers.

Lord Justice Phillips delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Stuart-Smith agreed.

Solicitors: Stonehams, Croydon; Mr Tim Teal, Sutton.

Housing refusal justified

Regina v Hounslow London Borough Council, Ex parte R
Before Mr Stephen Richards

Judgment February 19
In considering whether a housing applicant had made himself homeless intentionally, the question for a housing authority was whether the applicant's ceasing to occupy his accommodation would reasonably have been regarded at the time as a likely consequence of his deliberate conduct.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

Mr Stephen Richards, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so stated when dismissing an application for judicial review by the applicant, R, of a decision of the Council to refuse him a housing application.

the rent on his accommodation. On release from prison he applied to the council as a homeless person. The council rejected his application on the ground that he had been responsible for his homelessness by deliberate acts in consequence of which he had ceased to occupy his original accommodation.

Mr Jan Luba for the applicant; Mr Geoffrey Stephenson for the council.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the first question was whether the words "in consequence of which" in section 60(1) were to be taken as laying down a straightforward test of causation, or were to be qualified by reference to some limiting principle.

The preponderance of authority, in the form of *Robinson v Hounslow London Borough Council* (1982) 1 All ER 729; *Deveraux v Hounslow London Borough Council* (1983) 8 HLR 54; and *R v Westminster City Council, Ex parte Reid* (1994) 26 HLR 690, was in favour of some limitation.

Limitation also avoided the absurdity of there being different tests in relation to actual homelessness under section 60(1) and threatened homelessness under section 60(2), which incorporated an express limiting principle by referring to the "likely result" of the deliberate conduct.

The test favoured by his Lordship was one of "reasonable likelihood". In considering whether a person ceased to occupy accommodation "in consequence of" his deliberate conduct, the question to be asked was whether his ceasing to occupy the accommodation would reasonably have been regarded at the time as a likely consequence of the deliberate conduct.

It was an objective, not a subjective test, and might be imputed to the fair minded bystander in possession of all the relevant facts.

On a reading of the council's decision letter, it was clear that the council had applied the reasonable likelihood test, and on the facts there was no basis for interfering with its decision on the ground of irrationality.

Solicitors: Vickers & Co, Ealing; Mr Michael J. Smith, Hounslow.

European Law Report

Place of jurisdiction established by conduct

Mainescheffahrtsgesellschaft eG (MSG) v Les Gravières Rhénanes SARL
Case C-106/95

Before J. L. Murray, President of Sixth Chamber and Judges C. N. Kallias, P. J. G. Kapteyn, G. Hirsch and H. Ragnemalm. Advocate General G. Tesauro (Opinion September 26, 1996) (Judgment February 20).

Where one party to a contract concluded in international trade or commerce specified the place of performance without challenge by the other party, an agreement conferring jurisdiction was deemed to have been concluded if the conduct in question was consistent with a practice in the relevant field of trade or commerce of which the parties were or ought to have been aware.

Where an oral agreement specified a particular place as the place of performance and designated the courts of that place as having exclusive jurisdiction, but the place of performance specified had no connection with the subject matter of the contract, the provision of the Brussels Convention conferring jurisdiction on the courts for the place of performance did not apply.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the Bundesgerichtshof (Federal Court of Justice), Germany, under the protocol of June 3, 1971 on the interpretation of the Convention of Justice of the Brussels Convention and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, for a preliminary ruling on questions of interpretation of articles 5(1) and 17 of the Convention, as amended by the Convention of October 9, 1978 on the accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom (OJ 1978 L304 p7).

The plaintiff, based at Würzburg, Germany, chartered an inland-waterway vessel to the defendant, a company based in France, by a time charter concluded orally between the parties.

After the contractual negotiations had been completed, the plaintiff sent the defendant a commencing the pre-printed statement. The place of performance was Würzburg and the courts for that place had exclusive jurisdiction.

The plaintiff's invoices also mentioned that forum. The defendant did not challenge the letter of confirmation and paid all invoices without objection. The vessel loaded shipments of gravel mainly in France, carried them on the Rhine and unloaded them all in France.

In proceedings in which the plaintiff claimed compensation for damage to the vessel and an issue as to jurisdiction arose, the plaintiff maintained that the third hypothesis in the second sentence of the first paragraph of article 17 of the Convention entitled it to bring the proceedings in Germany, in view of the statement in the letter of confirmation.

Article 5 of the Convention provides: "A person domiciled in a contracting state may, in another contracting state, be sued: (1) in matters relating to a contract, in the courts for the place of performance of the obligation in question..."

The first paragraph of article 17 provides: "If the parties, one of whom is domiciled in a contracting state, have agreed that a court or the courts of a contracting state are to have jurisdiction to settle any disputes... that court or those courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction..."

Such an agreement conferring jurisdiction shall be either in writing or evidenced in writing or, in international trade or commerce, in a form which accords with practices in that trade or commerce of which the parties are or ought to have been aware..."

In its judgment the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: In order to take account of the specific practices and requirements of international trade, the 1978 Accession Convention added a third hypothesis to the second sentence of the first paragraph of article 17.

In the light of that amendment, the consensus on the part of the contracting parties was presumed to exist, and could be so presumed in the present case, if commercial practices in the relevant branch of international trade or commerce existed in that regard of which the parties were or ought to have been aware.

While it was for the national court to determine whether the contract came under the head of international trade or commerce and whether there was a relevant practice which the parties knew or were presumed to have known about, the court would indicate what was necessary in order to make such a determination.

It was to be considered that a contract between two companies established in different contracting

states in a field such as navigation on the Rhine came under the head of international trade or commerce.

Whether a practice existed by reference to the law of one of the contracting parties, and should be determined in relation to international trade or commerce in general but to the branch of trade or commerce in which the parties were operating.

The court then stated further criteria to be applied. In the event that the national court concluded that in the present case there was no relevant practice which the parties were or ought to have been aware of, the next question was whether an oral agreement on the place of performance, which was designed not to determine the place where the person liable was actually to perform the obligations incumbent on him, but solely to establish the courts for a particular place had jurisdiction, was valid under article 5(1).

Jurisdiction derogating from the general rule in article 2 that the defendant's courts should have jurisdiction was introduced by article 5(1) in certain well defined cases of a particularly close relationship between a dispute and the court which might be called on to resolve it.

The court held that the place of performance of a contractual obligation could be fixed by agreement between the parties, and that under certain conditions such agreement was sufficient to found jurisdiction in the place specified in article 5(1).

However, while the parties were free to agree on a place of performance differing from that which would be determined under the law applicable to the contract, without having to comply with specific conditions as to form, they were not entitled to designate, by the sole aim of specifying the place of performance having no real connection with the reality of the contract, at which the obligations arising under the contract could not be performed in accordance with its terms.

Agreements conferring jurisdiction in that way were governed by article 17 and were therefore subject to specific requirements as to form.

On the grounds stated by it the Court of Justice ruled: 1 The third hypothesis in the second sentence of the first paragraph of article 17 of the Convention, as amended, was to be interpreted as meaning that, under a contract concluded orally in international trade or commerce, an agreement conferring jurisdiction would be deemed to have been validly concluded under that provision if the facts that the parties to the contract did not react to a commercial letter of confirmation sent to it by the other party to the contract or repeatedly paid invoices without objection where those documents contained a printed reference to the courts having jurisdiction, were consistent with such conduct as was consistent with a practice in force in the field of international trade or commerce in which the parties in question operated and the latter were aware or ought to have been aware of the practice in question.

It was for the national court to determine whether such a practice existed and whether the parties to the contract were aware of it.

A practice existed in a branch of international trade or commerce in which the parties were generally followed by contracting parties operating in that branch when they concluded contracts of a particular type.

The facts that the contracting parties were aware of that practice were aware of in particular where they had previously had trade or commercial relations between themselves or with other parties operating in the branch of trade or commerce in question or where, in that branch, a particular course of conduct was generally and regularly followed when concluding a certain type of contract, with the result that it could be regarded as being a consolidated practice.

The Convention was to be interpreted as meaning that an oral agreement on the place of performance which was designed not to determine the place where the person liable was actually to perform the obligations incumbent on him, but solely to establish the courts for a particular place had jurisdiction, was not governed by article 5(1), but by article 17, and was valid only if the requirements set out therein were complied with.

Correction
In *Commissioners of Customs and Excise v DFDS A/S* (The Times February 24) the third paragraph of the report should have read: "It was apparent from the facts... that it did display the features of a fixed establishment."

BUSINESS SERVICES

MESSAGE PLUS
24 Hour
LIVE TELEPHONE
ANSWERING
Personalised Receptionist service
"Virtual Receptionist" - 24 Hour Call Out
From £25 per month
You NEED NEVER MISS
ANOTHER CALL!
0800 908 908

FRANCHISES

Is this the outstanding business opportunity you've been looking for?
If you're thinking of starting up in business, you'll probably already know that you multiply your opportunity to succeed by investing in a quality franchise.
Franchising provides you with a ready made business that operates to a tried and tested formula. From day one, you have the advantage of an established corporate image, and all the benefits of being part of a major national or international organisation, plus the essential specialist training and support that you need.
There are no dozens of franchises to choose from, but we believe that Floor Coverings International is the very best there is. In the last year and a half, almost 200 people in the UK and Ireland have agreed... for faster growth from a standing start than any other business opportunity has achieved.
So what's so special about FCI? Well, for a start, it's the right business at the right time. With the increasingly busy lives we all lead these days, FCI brings previously unmet levels of convenience and exceptional service to the job of buying carpets and all other floor coverings. Take a look at all the stories just don't compete on the same level as providing the best service in the business, we've delivered retail store costs, staff costs and stock costs, keeping our overheads so low that we can give our customers the very best value for money.
2,000 quality carpets from the leading manufacturers in the UK, Europe and the USA. Plus all the latest in cushion vinyls, modern solid laminate, solid hardwood floors.
operation of an exclusive territory of 15,000 to 20,000 selected households on a full time basis, range from £28,000 to over £80,000 per annum, but we have franchisees who are beating these figures seen in their first year.
It costs nothing to find out more about being the FCI Franchise Partner in your local area. Call us now and we'll send you our complete Franchise Information Pack. If you decide to take things a stage further, we have one-to-one daytimes and evening meetings arranged in these towns and cities:
Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Chester, Coventry, Exeter, Gloucester, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London, Luton, Manchester, Milton Keynes, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Peterborough, Plymouth, Reading, Southampton, Stevenage, Stoke-on-Trent, Swansea, Telford, Torquay, Wakefield, Walsley, Warrington, Wolverhampton, York.
is way ahead of anything else on the market today.
Franchise Packages are available between £9,950 and £17,950, which is financeable up to £7.5 million under a high yield bank, subject to status. In fact a brilliant, ready-to-go business with an exclusive territory to trade in, a comprehensive residential training programme that provides you with all the knowledge and expertise you need to get up and running, and exceptional ongoing support. Your "high visual impact" mobile design studio comes fully equipped with all the samples and sales tools you require, and the FCI sales team will be there to help you.
The first move has to be to down to you. Though, make it now. Floor Coverings International (UK) Limited, High Quality House, Sandwick Way, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, LS22 7JN.
Net profit projections* in Year 2, for the operation of an exclusive territory of 15,000 to 20,000 selected households on a full time basis, range from £28,000 to over £80,000 per annum, but we have franchisees who are beating these figures seen in their first year.
*This information should be used as an indication and for information purposes only, and is not a guarantee of performance.

ACCOUNTS Overhead, Confidential, Computerised, 100% accurate, 100% reliable, 100% fast, 100% cheap. 01777 977 1170 or 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170.

COMPANY Problem? Call the experts for immediate help. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170.

DOIT Want to start a business? Do it with us. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170.

FREE Free time trial. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170.

FREE Free time trial. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170. 01777 977 1170.

COMPANY Problem? Call the experts for immediate help. 01777 977 1170. 0

THE TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25 1997

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-5	-8
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	0	+33
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	+4	+10
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	3.00	+4	+3
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+4
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	-1
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.00	+4	+21
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	2.50	0	+10
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	-1
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-27
10603	F Grodas	Chelsea	1.50	+2	-13
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10702	J Fylan	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	-10	-17
10802	R Houtt	Derby County	0.50	0	-4
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	0	-10
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	+5	+4
11001	I Westwater	Durham	2.50	0	-22
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	+5	+4
11102	P Gerrard	Everton	2.00	-3	-13
11201	G Rousset	Hibernian	1.50	-8	-37
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	0	-5
11401	D Lakovic	Kilmarnock	1.50	0	+5
11501	M Beesley	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	2.50	-2	+19
11503	N Marlyn	Leeds United	1.00	0	-6
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	-6
11602	K Kellar	Leicester City	5.00	+10	+33
11701	D James	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	5.00	-2	+8
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	1.00	0	+5
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester United	1.50	0	-20
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-23
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-2
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-28
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	4.00	+5	+10
12101	S Hlop	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
12102	P Snelley	Newcastle United	2.50	+5	-32
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
12202	A Fitts	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	-37
12301	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	-3
12302	S Thomson	Raith Rovers	5.00	-1	+39
12401	A Goram	Rangers	2.00	-8	+10
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	0
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	-28
12601	D Beasant	Sheff Wed	0.25	0	-2
12602	M Miles	Sheff Wed	1.00	0	-17
12701	M Taylor	Sheff Wed	1.00	0	-17
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	1.00	0	+9
11803	A Coton	Sunderland	3.50	0	-7
12801	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
12802	E Baardse	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	-21
12901	L Mikosko	West Ham United	0.50	0	+5
12902	S Maitland	West Ham United	1.00	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0



Collymore was ineffective against Blackburn Rovers, but his display against Leeds United gained him six points

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
30303	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	+1	+24
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+2	+28
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	-3
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	0	+2
30404	N Markor	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	+3	+28
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	1.50	+3	+25
30502	M MacGregor	Celtic	3.50	-1	-12
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00	0	+1
30504	B O'Neill	Celtic	2.50	0	+1
30601	M Dugher	Chelsea	2.50	0	+20
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.00	0	-8
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	+3
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	1.50	0	+4
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+10
30606	E Johnson	Chelsea	2.50	0	+6
30701	L Walsh	Coventry City	2.00	+3	+11
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+3
30703	G Breen	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
30704	A Evtushok	Coventry City	2.50	-1	-2
30801	I Stimpac	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	2.50	-4	+6
30803	P McGrath	Derby County	1.00	0	-4
30804	L Lauren	Derby County	1.00	0	-4
30901	M Carbone	Derby County	1.00	-1	+47
30902	S Pressley	Dundee United	0.75	+4	0
31001	M Millar	Durham	0.75	0	-17
31002	I den Bieman	Durham	2.50	+4	+14
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	+4	+11
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.00	+4	+8
31103	C Short	Everton	1.00	0	+28
31201	R McPherson	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
31202	P Ritchie	Hibernian	0.50	0	+4
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.75	0	+7
31302	B Welsh	Hibernian	1.00	-2	-3
31303	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	-19
31401	S Dennis	Kilmarnock	1.00	-2	-3
31402	M Heilly	Kilmarnock	0.75	-2	+20
31501	R Monaghan	Leeds United	2.50	0	+2
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	+20
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	2.00	0	+11
31505	R Molenaar	Leeds United	1.00	-1	+7
31601	S Walsh	Leeds United	1.00	-1	+9
31602	J Watts	Leeds United	0.50	0	+6
31603	P Keenmark	Leeds United	1.00	0	-2
31701	S Prior	Leeds United	0.50	0	-2
31702	M Elliott	Leeds United	3.50	0	+24
31703	P Babb	Liverpool	3.00	+8	+35
31704	M Wright	Liverpool	1.00	+8	+34
31705	D Miller	Liverpool	2.00	+8	+34
31706	D Kerrane	Liverpool	2.00	+8	+34
31707	G Pallister	Manchester United	3.00	0	+28
31801	D May	Manchester United	2.50	0	+25
31802	R Johnson	Manchester United	1.50	0	-9
31803	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-10
31901	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-10
31902	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	-10
31903	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-6
31904	G Festa	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-6
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	0.75	+3	+8
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	4.50	+4	+18
32101	P Albert	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+7
32102	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	+4	+16
32103	D Patterson	Newcastle United	3.00	+4	+16
32201	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	2.50	+4	+11
32202	S Chellie	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	-5
32203	S Blatherwick	Nottingham Forest	0.50	-3	-4
32301	D Craig	Raith Rovers	0.50	0	0
32302	G Mitchell	Raith Rovers	3.50	+3	+57
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.00	0	-1
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.50	0	+11
32403	J McKendrick	Rangers	2.00	-3	-11
32501	J Newsome	Sheff Wed	1.50	-1	+32
32502	D Walker	Sheff Wed	0.25	0	0
32503	K Linighan	Sheff Wed	1.50	-3	-16
32601	K Monkou	Sheff Wed	1.00	-2	-17
32602	A Hallam	Sheff Wed	0.50	0	0
32603	C Dryden	Sheff Wed	0.50	0	-14
32604	C Lundekvam	Sheff Wed	1.50	-2	-22
32605	U van Goober	Sheff Wed	1.00	0	+23
32701	A McVie	Sunderland	1.00	-1	+10
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	0.50	0	+22
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	2.50	0	+1
32801	J Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+12
32802	C Caldwell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	0
32803	G Macburt	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32804	K Abbott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	-6
32805	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	-1
32806	R Yeag	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+8
32807	S Bliff	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+8
32808	M Rieper	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	-2
32809	S Potts	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	-2
32810	R Hall	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	+2
32901	R Ferdinand	West Ham United	1.00	0	0
32902	A Reeves	West Ham United	0.75	0	0
32903	C Pearce	West Ham United	0.50	+4	+15
32904	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+14
32905	M McAllister	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0
33001	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
42906	R Slater	Southampton	1.00	0	+7
42907	M Oakley	Southampton	0.50	0	+22
42908	P Tisdale	Southampton	0.50	0	0
42909	M Robinson	Southampton	1.00	+1	+20
42910	E Berkovic	Southampton	2.50	+1	+30
42911	M Gray	Sunderland	1.50	0	+18
42912	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	-1	-10
42913	A Rase	Sunderland	0.75	+1	+33
42914	P Bracewell	Sunderland	1.00	+1	+9
42915	M Smith	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50	0	+10
42916	D Anderson	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+23
42917	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42918	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+2
42919	I Dorell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+32
42920	A Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	+3
42921	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+31
42922	A Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+26
42923	I Bishop	West Ham United	2.00	0	+34
42924	M Hughes	West Ham United	1.50	0	+17
42925	C Williams	West Ham United	1.50	0	+15
42926	J Moncur	West Ham United	0.25	0	+11
42927	S Lazaridis	West Ham United	4.00	+2	+53
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+36
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.00	+2	+55
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50	+3	+53
43004	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43005	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.25	+2	+3
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	+2	+3

Code	Name	Team	Pos	Points	Value
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	+1	+10
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+6
50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	+1	+33
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+3	+60
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50203	C Sutton	Arsenal	7.50	+4	+32
50301	O Yorke	Aston Villa	4.00	+2	+31
50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+14
50303	T Johnson	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+8
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	3.00	+1	+31
50401	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+38
50402	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+3
50403	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers	7.00	0	+43
50501	P van Hooijdonk	Celtic	6.00	+3	+68
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	5.00	0	+34
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	4.00	+1	+33
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50603	M Stein	Chelsea	5.00	+3	+82
50604	P Bales	Chelsea	6.00	0	+27
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	+1	+27
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	3.00	+1	+4
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	0.50	+2	+25
50801	D Huckerby	Coventry City	3.00	0	+7
50802	M Gabbadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+7
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	+2	+29
50804	K Williams	Derby County	1.00	0	-17
50901	K Olafsson	Dundee United	3.00	+1	+4
51001	A Moore	Durfermine	2.00	0	+12
51002	S Petrie	Durfermine	2.00	+2	+26
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	+1	+33
51102	N Barmby	Everton	4.00	+1	+36
51103	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	+1	+31
51201	R McDermott	Everton	2.00	0	+7
51202	C Cameron	Hearths	3.50	+1	+45
51203	D Beckett	Hearths	3.50	+1	+44
51301	K Wright	Hibernian	3.00	+4	+43
51302	D Jackson	Hibernian	3.00	+3	+43
51401	I Marshall	Kilmarnock	7.00	0	+1
51501	A Yeobah	Leeds United	5.00	+1	+27
51502	I Rush	Leeds United	2.00	+1	+28
51503	B Deane	Leeds United	2.50	+3	+40
51601	S Claridge	Leeds United	2.00	0	+32
51602	E Heskey	Leeds United	0.75	0	+2
51603	M Robins	Leeds United	0.75	+13	+36
51701	I Marshall	Liverpool	9.00	+4	+65
51702	S Collymore	Liverpool	8.00	0	0
51801	E Caffrey	Manchester United	8.50	+2	+55
51802	R Nicholas	Manchester United	8.50	+1	+55
51803	A Cole	Manchester United	3.00	0	+2
51901	O G Solskjaer	Manchester United	5.00	0	+2
51905	F Ravanelli	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	+7
51908	M Beck	Motherwell	2.00	0	+1
52001	T Coyne	Motherwell	1.50	0	+1
52002	O Coyne	Motherwell	1.50	0	+1
52003	D Arnott	Motherwell	1.00	0	+1
52041	A Shearer	Newcastle United	8.50	0	+1
52101	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	6.50	0	+1
52102	F Asprilla	Newcastle United	5.00	0	+1
52103	P Beardsley	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+1
52201	D Saunders	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+1
52202	P Beardsley	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+1
52203	P McGreggor	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+1
52204	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	1.50	0	+1
52205	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	+1
52206	S Howe	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	+1
52207	A Sienitz	Nottingham Forest	0.50	0	+1
52301	P Beardsley	Raith Rovers	2.00	0	+1
52401	G Durie	Rangers	6.00	0	+1
52402	E Anderssen	Rangers	5.00	0	+1
52403	A McColst	Rangers	6.00	0	+1
52404	P van Vossen	Rangers	4.00	0	+1
52405	S Rozental	Rangers	4.00	0	+1
52501	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+1
52502	A Booth	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+1
52503	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+1
52601	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+1
52602	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+1
52603	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	0	+1
52604	E Ostenstad	Sunderland	1.00	0	+1
52701	P Stewart	Sunderland	1.00	0	+1
52702	C Eustace	Sunderland	1.00	0	+1
52703	D Kelly	Sunderland	0.50	0	+1
52704	L Howey	Sunderland	0.50	0	+1
52705	M Bridges	Sunderland	0.50	0	+1
52706	N Quinn	Sunderland	3.00	0	+1
52801	P Shevchenko	Tottenham Hotspur	7.00	0	+1
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	7.00	0	+1
52803	R Allen	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	0	+1
52804	S Iversen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00	0	+1
52901	J Hartson	West Ham United	2.00	0	+1
52902	I Dowds	West Ham United	2.00	0	+1
53001	D Hargreaves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+1
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+1
53003	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+1
53004	J Clark	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+1
53005	A Eusebio	Wimbledon	1.00	0	+1

NEWS

Tube sell-off to raise £2 billion

The London Underground is to be sold off for £2 billion and the proceeds ploughed back into building a modern network fit for the 21st century, Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, will announce today.

Sir George has won key concessions from the Treasury that will allow proceeds from the privatisation to be "ring-fenced". Whoever buys the network will be "drip-fed" the sale proceeds through an annual subsidy that will have to be spent on upgrading the 255-mile system. Page 1

Billie-Jo's guardian held over killing

The foster father of Billie-Jo Jenkins was arrested by detectives investigating her murder. Sion Jenkins, 39, a deputy headmaster, was detained at Hastings. His arrest came nine days after Billie-Jo, 13, was bludgeoned to death. Page 1

Storms rage

Three people died in a motorway crash as Britain braced itself for the worst gale of the winter with weathermen forecasting hurricane force winds in some parts of the south. Page 1

Princess sues

Lawyers acting for Diana, Princess of Wales, issued a libel writ against the *Express* on Sunday over allegations that she would personally profit from an auction of her dresses. Page 1

Role for Reeve

Christopher Reeve, the *Superman* actor paralysed in a horse riding accident, is to make his screen comeback in a remake of *Rear Window*. Page 3

Sparkling Cherie

Cherie Blair sparkled in the role of party leader's wife when she joined her husband in Wirral South in a dress rehearsal for the general election. Page 4

Video interview

Videotapes of police interviewing suspects would be played in courts under plans to provide greater protection for both police and alleged criminals. Page 5

Not a race apart

Four airline stewards who claimed British Airways discriminated against them because they were Scottish lost their case when a tribunal ruled that Scots and English are the same. Page 6

British spies fall on hard times

Some of Britain's spies have had their security clearance withdrawn because they have gone chronically into the red. The parliamentary Intelligence and Security Committee gave a warning of the dangers of spies in financial trouble. The committee's annual report says they could be targeted by Russian agents bearing cash. Page 1

Soldier cremated

Mourners at the cremation of Stephen Restorick, the British soldier killed by an IRA sniper, were told that his death should "be a catalyst for peace". Page 7

Stretching belief

Churchmen are alarmed by a spate of books by revisionist theologians who claim apostle Paul founded Christianity. Page 9

Deng mourned

Chinese television broadcast extraordinary footage of Deng Xiaoping's family weeping over his body. President Jiang Zemin was shown bowing before the coffin and Prime Minister Li Peng was visibly moved. Page 11

President accused

The first President of Zimbabwe and international statesman, The Rev Canaan Banana, was a predatory homosexual who forced his aide-de-camp to submit to repeated rape, according to evidence in a trial. Page 10

Gunman's angst

The gunman who shot seven people at the Empire State Building was a 69-year-old Palestinian teacher who had been cheated out of his life savings. Page 12

Basque plot

A plot by Basque terrorists to murder or kidnap the eldest daughter of King Juan Carlos of Spain was uncovered last month. Page 13



Thousands of Chinese wait patiently behind a barrier of military police for a glimpse of Deng Xiaoping's cortege. Page 11

BUSINESS

Dispute: SmithKline Beecham, the pharmaceuticals group, agreed to pay \$325 million to settle a long-running dispute with American regulators. Page 25

Takeover: Yorkshire Electricity accepted a £1.5 billion offer from a US energy group, making it the seventh regional electricity company under US control. Page 25

Payout: Alliance & Leicester, the building society that plans to become a bank this spring, will make payouts worth an average of £1,000 to some 2.4 million savers and borrowers. Page 25

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell to 4331.1 while sterling rose from 97.4 to 97.7 after its rise from \$1.6191 to \$1.6335 and from DM2.7253 to DM2.7270. Page 28

Football: Fifa ruled out any possibility of a joint bid by England and Germany to stage the 2006 World Cup. The two countries will now push ahead to get the backing of UEFA. Page 48

Rugby union: Leicester, the new favourites, have been drawn away to Gloucester in the Pilkington Cup semi-finals. Sale entertain Harlequins in the other tie. Page 45

Rowing: Ed Bellamy, the Oxford president, issued the traditional challenge to Cambridge but will miss the Boat Race after losing his place in the crew. Page 48

Tennis: Tim Henman's world ranking rose from 19 to 14 after he reached the final of the European Community Championship. Greg Rusedski is at 35. Page 48

Modern madness: The scandal of Roger Fry's great 1910 Post-Impressionist exhibition that sent a "hurricane" through London is evoked in a show at the Barbican. Page 33

Critic's choice: Brian Cox is magnificent as a power-hungry Irish theatre critic on the road to ruin in Conor McPherson's one-man play, *St Nicholas*. Page 34

Pop class: At a gig in Kentish Town, Sheffield band Longpigs show some of the class that has established them as one of the most accomplished live acts of the 1990s. Page 34

Bear essentials: Geoff Brown reports on the winners of the Berlin Film Festival, including the Golden Bear for best film for *The People vs Larry Flynt*. Page 35

In and out: The British screenwriter Jonathan Gems is directing his first American film — but it could also be his last because, he says, Los Angeles is not a good place to live in. Page 15

Dunblane remembered: In Part Two, Magnus Linklater describes how a headmaster and a minister have helped the town to cope with its grief. Page 14

Mistrial by media? Anthony Scrivener says the Carl Bridgewater case points to a growing trend in the press. Page 35

Demand and supply: Will the Government's plans for adoption really help those in need? Page 37

Back to the future: Who keeps an eye on the futures traders before they do a Nick Leeson? Page 37

Suffering from deafness, may from autism, a number of politicians did not notice what took place in Paris as more than 100,000 people took to the streets simply to let it be known that they were having more and more difficulty in breathing freely in France today. That the politicians, whether of the Right or of the Left, made a pretence of not hearing them is a bad omen. By dint of seeing nothing, they are laying themselves open to a dangerous divorce between the country and their aims. — *Le Monde*

IN THE TIMES

INTERFACE
A bug in the works: inside the microscopic world of nano-machines

HOMES
How VAT informers are making even some honest builders bankrupt

Preview: The Nazis hated Jews and lesbians. Lilly's lover was both. *Timewatch* (BBC2, 9pm) **Review:** Lynne Truss goes in search of the real Ray Mears, the wilderness expert. Page 47

Southern discomfort

Attention in Nato must switch to enhancing the powers of Nato's deputy supreme commander, who has been promised command of any operation using purely European forces. Page 17

Find the gaps

The Liberal Democrats have always served a niche market. Their difficulty is that the niche keeps changing places. It used to be between the two main parties, but now the only space left is on the Left. Page 17

Natural allies

President Weizman's arrival today on the first state visit ever paid to Britain by an Israeli leader is overdue recognition of the long association between the two countries. Page 17

LIBBY PURVES

It is not for us to end evolution. The history of living creatures is a story of change and adaptation. Normal reproduction ensures that the genetic kaleidoscope is shaken every single time. Besides, the qualities which we value today may not be those the future needs. Page 16

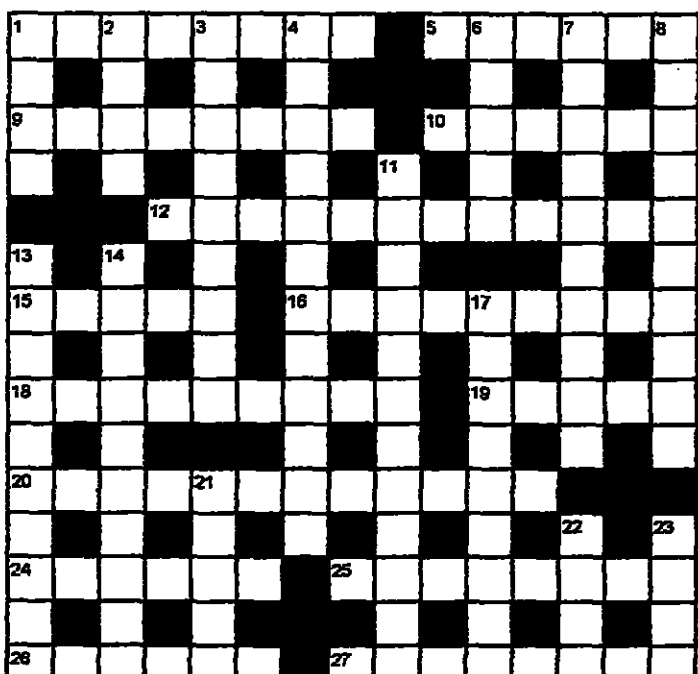
JONATHAN SACKS

The family is a social institution. It is not something its members have invented, any more than they have made the language they speak. It is something they have inherited from the culture — from habit or custom, or the example of their parents, or possibly religious teaching. Page 16

Emily Hahn, American writer and adventurer; Sir Frank Hartley, pharmacist; Alan Elliott-Smith, headmaster. Page 19

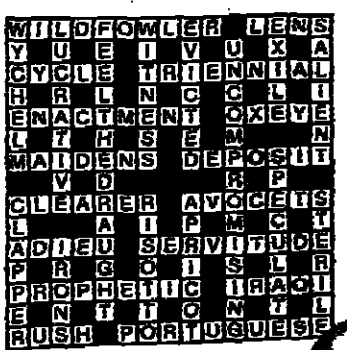
Lord Jenkins on lessons of Ireland in devolution debate; police misconduct and damage awards; are we failing the elderly?; sex offenders' Bill; women in the Church; Dickens's statue. Page 17

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,412



- ACROSS**
- Slipshod friends knocked back by sudden rush (8).
 - Additional drink for an engraver (6).
 - Reportedly acts as supervisor abroad (8).
 - Lied, possibly, about a royal garment (6).
 - Condition accepted by bumbling old men in neutral countries (6,6).
 - Obscurity representing loneliness for Wordsworth? (5).
 - Slippery type in country is self-employed (9).
 - Circular shape of tiny Tudor construction (7).
 - Vessel holding life — the French measure (8).
 - Writer with piece of jewelry, say, acting like a pirate (12).
 - Where fliers are first of all taken by train (6).
- DOWN**
- One's pulled out, in the course of voluntary work (4).
 - Amount of land available in Far East (4).
 - Mistakenly underbids? Get it off your chest (9).
 - One of those giving general assistance (5,7).
 - Kaave possibly showing capacity for emotion (5).
 - In fine asters, crossing harbour, in conformity with rules (10).
 - Sort of post that's made an impression (10).
 - Insect frightening Sussex town, we hear (6-6).
 - Running totals displayed here make an impact on management (10).
 - Way small bag is loaded into vessel as afterthought (10).
 - Type of orange lifted on prong — one from Jaffa, perhaps (9).
 - On lake, situate a home for high-lifer (5).
 - Endorsement originally signed in the Roman way (4).
 - Maggie, perhaps? In the dark it's a wild guess (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,411



HIGH-TECH JONES
Yesterday's highest day: St Mary's, St. Mary's, 120 (54%); lowest day: Loch Gairloch, Highland 30 (27%); highest rainfall: Tynagh, Co. Wick, 1.02in; highest wind: Killybeggs, 7.3 m/s.

Latest Road and Weather conditions
UK Weather - All regions 0336 444 910
UK Roads - All regions 0336 401 210
Inside M25 0336 401 744
M25 and Link Roads 0336 401 747
National Motorways 0336 401 748
Continental Europe 0336 401 910
Channel crossing 0336 401 388
Motoring to Heathrow & Gatwick airports 0336 407 505

Weather by Fax
0336 444 910
Fax 0336 401 744
153 destinations world wide
6 day forecast
by Phone 0336 411216
by Fax (index page) 0336 416333

Motoring
Europe Country by Country 0336 401 885
European fuel costs 0336 401 886
French Motorways 0336 401 887
Support information 0336 401 888
Channel Ports 0336 401 889
Le Touquet 0336 401 895

Car reports by fax
new and used car reports from the AA network of 195 cars
0336 416 389
Call from your fax machine, you may have to dial to post receive mode

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FLIGHT SAVERS
LONDON TO INVERNESS £59
LONDON TO FRANKFURT £99
LONDON TO ZURICH £99
0345 666777
AirUK

General: eastern areas of England and Wales will be bright with sunny intervals but also showers. In the west, showers will be frequent with hail or thunder, and over high ground sleet or snow. Winds will be strong to gale, westerly.

Eastern areas of Scotland and Northern Ireland will be bright with blustery showers and sunny intervals. The west will have frequent heavy, squally showers, spreading to Arnam and Aberdeenshire as strong to gale winds veer northwesterly. Snow over hills.

London, E Midlands, W Midlands, Central N England: bright, sunny intervals and squally showers developing during day. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 11C (52F).

SE England, Central S England, Channell Isles, SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England: bright, sunny intervals and squally showers.

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: bright, showers petering out; clear overnight, then cloud and rain spreading northeast.

SE England, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: bright with sunny intervals and occasional blustery showers. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 9C (48F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: frequent blustery showers, snow on hills drifting. Showers becoming restricted to exposed coasts as winds fall. Winds strong to gale, west or northwest, becoming light. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: bright, showers petering out; clear overnight, then cloud and rain spreading northeast.

SE England, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: bright with sunny intervals and occasional blustery showers. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 9C (48F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: frequent blustery showers, snow on hills drifting. Showers becoming restricted to exposed coasts as winds fall. Winds strong to gale, west or northwest, becoming light. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: bright, showers petering out; clear overnight, then cloud and rain spreading northeast.

SE England, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: bright with sunny intervals and occasional blustery showers. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 9C (48F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: frequent blustery showers, snow on hills drifting. Showers becoming restricted to exposed coasts as winds fall. Winds strong to gale, west or northwest, becoming light. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: bright, showers petering out; clear overnight, then cloud and rain spreading northeast.

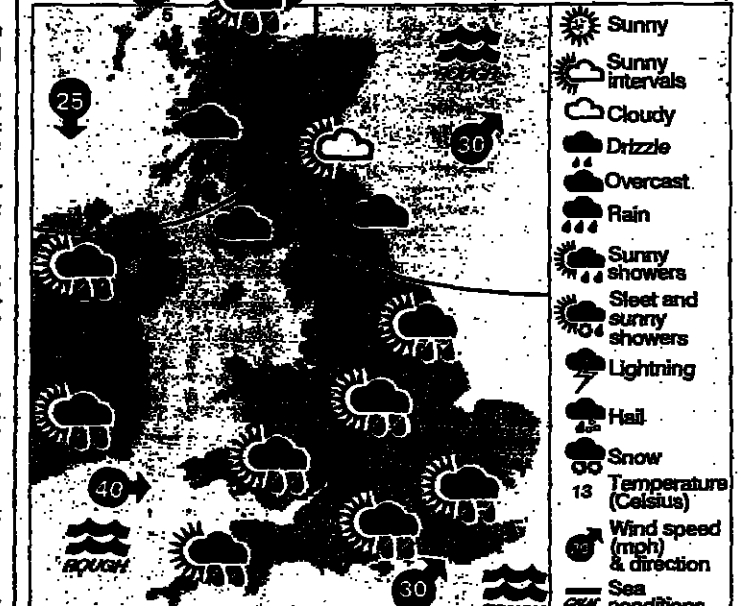
SE England, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: bright with sunny intervals and occasional blustery showers. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 9C (48F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: frequent blustery showers, snow on hills drifting. Showers becoming restricted to exposed coasts as winds fall. Winds strong to gale, west or northwest, becoming light. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: bright, showers petering out; clear overnight, then cloud and rain spreading northeast.

SE England, E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: bright with sunny intervals and occasional blustery showers. Winds strong to near gale, west or southwest. Feeling cold. Max 9C (48F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: frequent blustery showers, snow on hills drifting. Showers becoming restricted to exposed coasts as winds fall. Winds strong to gale, west or northwest, becoming light. Cold. Max 7C (45F).

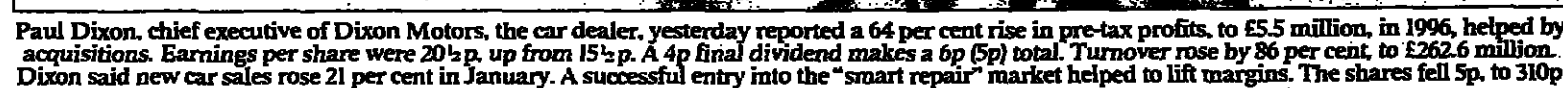


Changes to chart below from noon: low M will slowly fill and push northeast up the Norwegian coast; low A will be slow moving in the Atlantic and lose its identity



TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	02.28	7.1	15.48	7.2	London	04.17	8.8	16.28	8.3
Aberdeen	02.57	4.1	15.06	4.2	Liverpool	04.41	8.1	12.56	9.2
Abercrombie	03.48	13.1	17.07	13.1	Leeds	05.11	8.2	23.23	8.5
Belfast	03.59	3.2	12.71	3.3	Manchester	05.18	8.3	13.02	8.6
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Nottingham	05.41	8.4	20.08	8.8
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Sheffield	05.41	8.4	18.00	8.8
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Southampton	05.41	8.4	12.50	8.9
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Stirling	05.41	8.4	12.50	8.9
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Swansea	05.41	8.4	12.50	8.9
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Torquay	05.41	8.4	12.50	8.9
Cardiff	04.26	12.1	20.59	12.0	Weymouth	05.41	8.4	12.50	8.9

Estates & General, the property investment company, is returning to the dividend list with a 0.4p payment after pre-tax profits of £1.6 million (£1.8 million loss), including £800,000 from a legal settlement.



By PAUL DURMAN

Hanson Brick, the ARC aggregates business and the other activities that make up "new" Hanson, lifted their combined operating profits 11 per cent, to £40 million, on quarterly sales of £578 million (£549 million). The revival in the UK housing market helped Hanson Brick, whose profits increased by 50 per cent to £6 million. ARC made an unchanged £11 million.

BY JASON NISSE

The two sides are discussing what Mr Arculus should get from Emap's long-term incentive plan. So far, he has a nominal award of 46,644 shares, worth £266,000, and could receive another 25,000 this year. However, under scheme

rules, he should give them up. He has share options worth £1.3 million, to keep.

Last year's disputes centred on succession. Enmap said yesterday the issue of a new chairman would be decided by the end of this year, and Sir John Hoskyns would retire in mid-1998. **Pennington, page 27**

SNCF, the French state-owned railway system, had a deficit of FF15.2 billion last year or FF27.7 billion above a revised autumn budget. In 1995, SNCF incurred a loss of FF16.6 billion and, following the same accounting calculations, would have incurred a 1996 loss of FF12.8 billion. The Government recently separated the service business from management of infrastructure. The overall business paid interest of FF12.3 billion on accumulated debt of FF203 billion.

FROM EILEEN McCABE
IN DUBLIN

The results add fuel to the debate on motor insurance costs in the Republic which, industry experts say, are the highest in the EU. An industry survey in 1994 found that personal injury awards arising out of motor accidents in Ireland are on average four times higher than in the UK.

There is a final dividend of Ir£7p, payable on April 28, giving a total of Ir£10.1p, up 13.5 per cent.

BY OUR CITY STAFF

News of the increase comes as the DTI confirmed that it would seek the disqualification of ten directors of Barings, the investment bank that which lost more than £800 million through the actions of Nick Leeson, the rogue trader. If the courts agree, the Barings Ten could be banned from being directors for up to 15 years under the 1986 Company Directors Disqualification Act.

BY FRASER NELSON

CHRIS EVANS, the biotechnology entrepreneur, has created one of Britain's largest independent environmental consultancies by co-ordinating the merger of his own "green" businesses with Aspinwall & Co.

Enviros, which runs three consultancies with a combined turnover of £9 million, has bought Aspinwall for £7.5 million in a deal partly funded from Dr Evans's own resources.

The enlarged group, which plans to come to the stock market when it breaks even, aims to become the largest consultancy of its kind by the

end of this year, through buying at least two of its rivals.

Enviros will advise businesses how to operate more efficiently through environmentally friendly means, and will sell green products. Although it will trade under the slogan "Environmental Excellence", it will be dedicated mainly to enhancing clients' profitability. Dr Evans said: "Our products will be chosen on price and efficiency. The environmental aspect is a bonus — but a tremendous bonus."

Aspinwalls will retain its separate brand name.

It's a snip to save money on business calls. And up to 48% on a three minute call to the USA. Even compared to BT's new basic rate. With Mercury you can save up to 36% on a three-minute long distance call in the UK. Whoever you are, whatever your business, we'd love to hear from you.

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
buys	buys	buys	buys
Australia \$	2.28	Malta	0.958
Austria Sfr	20.07	Netherlands Gld	3.260
Belgium Ffr	56.18	New Zealand \$	2.43
Canada Cdn	0.263	Norway Kr	11.41
Denmark Dkr	1.092	Portugal Esc	10.8
France Ffr	0.791	Spain Ptas	166.64
Germany DM	2.97	Switzerland Ffr	2.50
Greece Dr	4.17	Sweden Kr	12.1
Hong Kong \$	13.22	USA \$	1.794
India Rupee	46.5		
Indonesia Rp	5.72		
Japan Yen	1.08		
Israel Sh	5.72		
Italy Lira	266.37		
South Africa Rand	106.50		

* Rates for email dissemination; bank rates supplied by Societe Bank. Other rates apply to interbank's cheques. Rates are for London.

For all aspiring people

Read The Times' exclusive
Second Degree Supplement
published on Friday February 28th

only in THE TIMES

Advertisers please call 0171-680-6800

□ And then there was one... □ Last episode for Emap's soap opera □ Waning fortunes of French holiday legend

Dining on the last dodo

IN THE interests of biodiversity, should the regional electricity industry be declared a nature preserve? The bid for Yorkshire Electricity should slip under the wire before the election. Any offer for the last survivor of the class of 1990, Southern, could also succeed over the same timescale.

One is reminded of that anonymous Portuguese sailor who tucked into the last dodo. Eating one dodo is no more of a sin than eating the next — until one day, too late, there are none of them left. No one can say what use dodos might have been — provided some parallel-world Bernard Matthews with his fortune, perhaps? Likewise, we may not miss all our regional electricity companies until they are gone.

If Southern does succumb to an American landing party, the beast will have been clubbed over the head in the nick of time, because a hit squad from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been sighted on the horizon. Labour's John Birtle is not actually saying his party will block any bids in power, but the betting is that the Americans would have a more difficult ride.

The timing is tight anyway — the bidders for Yorkshire have opted for an accelerated timetable that should provide a decision within 30 days, taking this to about three weeks before a

May 1 election date. This explains the undue haste with which the deal has been done: the two Americans wanting to avoid a protracted bidding war. It explains the failure of Yorkshire to wait it out for a higher price, even if the earnings multiples being paid are not much higher than those paid for Northern in a hostile bid.

So much for fears about the utilities tax. The Americans must think the opportunities to create a Yorkshire mega-utility taking in, potentially, gas and telecoms are well worth the extra cost — not that this will prevent them from threatening legal action if a tax is levied.

PowerGen, one of the two big fossil-fuel generators, still harbours ambitions to buy a regional power company, but it had hoped to wait until after the election, when Labour might look more favourably on such a move. The company has clearly missed one boat and on the above analysis risks missing the next. But any bid for Southern would kill off the last dodo.

The loser would be the electricity regulator and, potentially,

customers. If every power distributor disappears, the job of setting prices by comparing one company with another becomes immeasurably more difficult. A few independents allow a clear view of finances that can be too easily obscured once companies come under new ownership.

That suggests a Southern bid should be blocked by whichever government, even if it would be hard on a set of shareholders who would be the only ones shut out of the ball. Better still to block Yorkshire and keep a breeding pair. This will probably not happen under the Conservatives. But it should.

Arculus departs from the script

BACK in the 1960s there was a soap opera set in the racy world of consumer magazines. *Compact* was the name, if memory serves. It was one of those dramas where bright young people rush into each other's offices saying things like: "You swine, Richard — you utter swine."

The series enjoyed a brief revival



last year courtesy of Emap, the magazine publisher. The plot: two clever young men, Robin Miller and David Arculus, turn a sleepy local paper group into one of the most successful publishers of the past decade. Lots of dramatic potential here, because one is a motorbike-crazy journalist and the other a professional manager.

Enter a third character, an abrasive, experienced businessman, a favourite of Mrs Thatcher, as the new chairman. Which of the two will Sir John Hoskyns favour in the inevitable leadership battle? And how long will the other last?

Next episode should be a good, public boardroom row — men in suits with lines like, "In all conscience, Robin, I can't back you on this one." We got one last

autumn, and two non-executives walked. But what of Mr Arculus?

Fast-forward to last November, and Emap presenting interim figures to the City. Robin Miller is upbeat, profits up 34 per cent. Sir John is reassuring — split? Of course not. Everyone working together, team effort. David Arculus is strangely subdued.

In the last episode of the new series, Mr Arculus goes to Mr Miller and says he is leaving. No arguments. Emap's share price falls — lots of anxious calls to brokers. But what is remarkable is how well the price has performed over the past year despite the rows, up from below £5 to above £8 before yesterday's fall.

This would seem to put a question mark over just how essential Mr Arculus was. Kevin Hand, another director, is probably being groomed — should that be manured? — to take over much of his former job. The distinction between the job titles of Mr Miller, chief executive, and Mr Arculus, managing director, was always hard to understand.

Emap is still in a strong position in its core markets, with benefits to come from the French business

and its expanding radio interests. Watchers might complain if it turns out to be a duller ride from now on, but investors will not.

Mid-life crisis for Club Med

IF YOU can turn Euro Disney round, you can save anything. So thought grateful French investors, who pushed Club Med shares up a fifth after Philippe Bourguignon, chairman of the chastened theme park, agreed to become chief executive of the once-trendy but now sepiatined holiday group.

Customers who grit their teeth at Club Med prices might imagine it had profit margins to match. Not so. Profits peaked below £30 million in 1990. In 1995, Club Med made £18 million on turnover of more than £900 million. Last year, income slipped 6 per cent, profit shrank to about £8 million and an £80 million charge for a belated shake-up left the books and investors' faces red instead of bronzed.

Matching the getaway primitivism that proved so trendy in

the 1950s and 1960s with today's search for stress-free, sybaritic isolation, was never going to be easy. Identities became blurred when mate-hunting customers carried happy memories of communal encounters into middle age, and wanted to stay with Club Med but bring the kids and have them looked after. Club 18-30 was never going to have that problem.

Gilbert Trigano, who supplied tents for the first camp in 1950, stayed on until 1993, then handed over to his son Serge — not the best formula for moving with the market. M. Bourguignon will close camps, convert more to the cheaper Club Aquarius label and doubtless accumulate indulgences. That would suit investors but may leave Club Med as just a package operator in a tough market.

A world apart

GUSSES has always had an other-worldly air, even if the gap with the rest of the twentieth century is gradually closing. Great Universal Stores, until yesterday, had no finance director; the post of chief executive is unfilled, and may remain so in perpetuity. Other quoted companies might be envious. However, as GUS has shown, you can get away with much if you are sitting on a mountain of cash.

Thorn sheds 360 jobs on Radio Rentals closures

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

THORN, the rentals group that issued a profit warning last month, is to shut 90 Radio Rentals stores and make 360 staff redundant.

The move follows an announcement this month by Granada that it is to shut around 100 of its rental stores, a move that puts hundreds of jobs at risk.

Around 210 jobs will go at the 90 smaller Radio Rentals stores that are earmarked for closure by the company and the remaining 150 will go from Thorn's central support functions.

The redundancies, most of which are likely to be compulsory, should produce savings of between £6 million and £6.5 million a year.

The closures will reduce the

Radio Rentals chain to 530 stores.

Thorn shares rose 16½p, to 203p, on news of the cost-cutting, in spite of a fall in profits in the first nine months of this financial year.

Pre-tax profit, including exceptional charges, in the nine months to December 31 was £76.1 million, down from £113.9 million previously. The provisions cover liabilities relating to the closure of Ecom UK stores and demerger charges relating to the business's split with EMI last year.

No further provisions will be needed to pay for the redundancies. Excluding the exceptional items, pre-tax profit rose to £123 million, from £113.9 million a year ago.

The Government's pro-

posed increase in Insurance Premium Tax from 2.5 per cent to 17.5 per cent from April 1 is expected to knock up to £10 million off Thorn's profits in 1997-98.

The company plans to continue with the roll-out of its Crazy George's rental stores in the UK, and it hopes to have 60 open by the end of the financial year.

However, controversy in France last year over the opening, near Paris, of the first branch of Crazy George's in that country has effectively wrecked that trial of the format, a spokesman said. "We wanted the store to be a trial, but the scale of the publicity has ruined it," he said. "We will now have to have a hard look at what to do next in

France and the rest of continental Europe."

In the United States, business has been hit by a sluggish market and tough price competition from consumer electronics retailers. Thorn said that it is launching its own promotional programmes to reward customer loyalty.

Fourth-quarter trading results will feel the impact of the stronger sterling, which will reduce the value of non-UK profits. Thorn repeated its forecast that its full-year profit before tax and exceptional items will be broadly unchanged from last year's pro forma equivalent of £170.7 million.

Tempus, page 28

Regal set to reap White Hart reward

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

REGAL HOTELS GROUP said that the first stage of the integration of the White Hart chain of hotels is complete and it will now be stepping up its marketing campaign.

The company quadrupled in size to 82 hotels when it bought the 60-strong chain from Granada for £122 million early last year. Charles Vere Nicol, executive chairman, said that margins are beginning to improve at the former Forte chain and that the full benefits of the acquisition should flow through this year.

Regal is also intending to revamp around 20 per cent of its room stock over the year. The company unveiled a 250 per cent increase in profits, excluding tax and exceptional items, to £10.35 million. Total sales increased 270 per cent to £66 million while earnings per share increased

38 per cent to 4.68p. Occupancy levels across the group rose by 4.9 percentage points, although the average room rate decreased 4.1 per cent. Gearing was reduced from a high of 75 per cent last May to 68 per cent at the year end.

Regal added that its first three theme bars had proved a success and it is aiming to add six new sites this year. But the company is intending to convert only one hotel to the Country Inns & Suites brand, for which it acquired franchise rights from Carlson, the privately owned leisure group.

Regal shares rose 1p to 64½p, compared with a rights issue price of 42p at the time of the White Hart acquisition. The total dividend was doubled to 1p, with a final 0.675p payable on March 26.

Tempus, page 28

Wolfson favours GUS over Next

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

LORD WOLFSON of Sunningdale has signalled that he intends to give up the chairmanship of Next within a year to concentrate on running Great Universal Stores, the mail order group (See Pennington, this page).

Lord Wolfson said: "I spend very little time with Next and am full time with GUS. I suppose this will last for a fairly limited period, maybe another year."

He stepped down from being executive to non-executive chairman of Next, where he and David Jones, chief executive, are credited with engineering its recovery, when he became executive chairman of GUS last August.

He said that GUS and Next are not yet direct competitors, but would become so "if and when GUS gets into direct mail brand catalogues". Lord

Wolfson was speaking yesterday as he revealed boardroom changes at GUS, which included the appointment of David Tyler as group finance director — a post that did not previously exist.

Company advisers suggested the finance director role had been created at the suggestion of institutional investors. However, Lord Wolfson said there had been no pressure. Previously, the chairman and deputy chairman oversaw financial matters through a finance committee.

Mr Tyler's last position was as commercial and finance director of Christie's. Also appointed yesterday were David Bury as group commercial director and treasurer of GUS and Louise Patten, as a non-executive director. These appointments were to replace directors who have retired.

Cloning experiment boosts PPL

Shares of PPL Therapeutics rose 52½p to 387½p as the market digested the news that the Scottish genetic engineering company has successfully cloned a sheep.

Details of the experiment, conducted with the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, are to be published this week in *Nature*, the scientific journal.

PPL, which came to the market at 450p last June, was previously best known for its "transgenic" production of human proteins in the milk of sheep.

Future hopes

Future Integrated Telephony, the telecom and computer systems integrator that joined the Alternative Investment Market in November, said that it should return to profit by April. The company said the loss of £29,000 (£105,000 profit) in the six months to November 30 reflected heavy investment, and would be offset with profits it was making now. Sales rose to £2.12 million (£1.64 million).

Cash injection

F1 Retail Holdings, which has 15 shops dedicated to motor racing paraphernalia, is raising £500,000 on the Oxfam market. It wants the extra cash to open another 25 stores by the end of 1999.



David Page, chief executive, plans more restaurants

Pizza group finds recipe for growth

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

PIZZAEXPRESS aims to open a further 25 restaurants before the year end as the company continues to expand away from its London base.

The group opened 16 sites during the first half, including sites in Belfast and Lytham, Lancashire.

In the six months to December 31, pre-tax profits increased 54 per cent to £6.3 million as the company benefited from new openings and an increase in like-for-like sales. Overall turnover rose 57 per cent to £30.6 million.

The group acquired 29 franchised sites at the end of November for £25 million. In the seven weeks to December 31 these restaurants produced profits of £440,000 on sales of £2.2 million.

The company now owns a total of 119 restaurants and eight franchises. PizzaExpress said 40 per cent of the chain had been open for less than two years and should continue to show year-on-year growth. It is also aiming to accelerate its overseas expansion efforts having recently signed five franchise agreements.

PizzaExpress added that trading is brisk and that it is confident of a successful outcome to the year. Shares in the company closed up 2p at 560½p, compared with a rights issue price of 425p at the time of the franchise buy-back. The interim dividend rises 21 per cent to 0.85p a share, payable on April 7.

Isn't it time you looked into affordable healthcare?

At a glance Lifetime HealthCare from Legal & General looks good. On careful examination it looks even better. This 3-in-1 plan provides Private Medical Insurance that buys you private hospital and specialist care. Plus a Medical Cash Fund** for dental care, eyecare and similar expenses that other plans ignore. And an added extra, Accidental Disability Insurance* to remove another worry from your mind. Legal & General's lifetime of experience in insurance has allowed all three benefits to be tailored into one straightforward plan. For a monthly payment small enough to fit into almost any budget.

It's time you looked into how easy good private healthcare can be for you. Make a free telephone call or use the freepost coupon below now.

*Available only to persons up to 60 years of age.
*Some benefits are subject to a qualifying period

Lifetime HealthCare only from Legal & General

CALL US FREE NOW QUOTING REF B11-DL25

0500 66 99 66

WEEKDAYS 9am - 8pm WEEKENDS 9am - 5pm

FOR YOUR RECORD, YOUR NAME WILL BE ENTERED IN OUR DATABASE AND WE WILL CONTACT YOU BY POST

Send to Legal & General, FREEPOST SWC 0467, Cardiff, CF1 1YW

SURNAME _____ (MR/MRS/MISS/MS)
FORENAMES _____
ADDRESS _____
POSTCODE _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____
TEL. HOME _____
TEL. BUSINESS _____
ADDITIONAL PERSONS TO BE COVERED _____
ADULT PARTNER (NAME) _____
MARITAL STATUS OF EITHER ADULT IS OVER 60? _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ NO. OF CHILDREN UNDER 18 _____

Please send me a personal quotation at no obligation. We may telephone you to make sure that the information you have requested has arrived safely. Now and then, we may also tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies, that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick here ☐

B11/DL25

Legal & General Direct Limited
Registered in England No. 2703880
Registered Office: Temple Court
11 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4N 4TF

http://www.legal-and-general.co.uk



All Lifetime HealthCare policies are underwritten by Legal & General Assurance Society Limited

Recruitment specialist to float

By FRASER NELSON

HARVEY NASH, a recruitment consultancy specialising in computer operators, is coming to the main market next month via a placing which should value the company at £45 million.

The company was set up nine years ago by David Higgins, Tom Crawford and David Treacher, who left Lloyd Chatman Associates and founded Harvey Nash with their own savings. The three, who are joint managing directors of the company, are now on course to share a paper fortune of £27 million.

Tom Crawford remortgaged his house

to finance his share of the start-up. He said: "It was some decision to take. We did wonder whether we'd done the right thing. We saw that computers would play an increasingly important role in business, which was quite an easy assumption, but it would have been hard to predict that the industry would go through the boom we're seeing now."

The company is expecting to return sales of £35 million for the year to January 31, an increase of 50 per cent. It predicts that the shortage of computer operators will become more acute, lifting average salaries in the industry and encouraging workers to leave permanent employment

for contract work, where they can often double their salary.

More than 20 per cent of revenue comes from overseas offices in Stuttgart and Zurich. The company expects the shortage of computer staff will encourage other European countries to loosen their labour regulations, and it plans to open more continental offices in preparation for this.

Harvey Nash plans to raise little more than its flotation costs through the placing, and come to the market when an investment opportunity presents itself. It eventually plans to provide its headhunting and contracting services to the financial, healthcare and retail sectors.

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Pilkington gloom lifts as shares edge forward

HEAVY turnover in Pilkington, Britain's biggest glassmaker, suggests that some good news may be on the way at last for hard-pressed shareholders.

The price ended 5p dearer at 141p as almost ten million shares changed hands. Currently they are hovering just above their low for the year of 130p, with figures due towards the end of March.

SBC Warburg, the broker, is said to have taken out one large buyer who is reckoned to have been overhanging the market for some weeks. A line of 2.64 million shares that went through at 138p on the ticker seemed to underline that view.

Analysts say trading remains difficult in Europe with prices under pressure. They say Pilkington is now looking vulnerable at these levels and refuse to rule out the possibility of a U.S. bid.

The rest of the equity market made a cautious start to the week, with the investors looking anxiously towards Thursday's Wirral south-by-election and a clutch of trading statements from various blue-chip companies.

Another strong start by the Dow Jones industrial average in New York ended prices in London to close above their worst of the day. The FT-SE 100 index rallied from an early 21-point fall to finish 5.7 off at 4,331.1. Turnover was a meagre 679 million shares. Ex-dividends in SmithKline Beecham, down 11.1p at 910.5p, Barclays 32.4p off at 644.2p, Lloyd's TSB 12p easier at 502p, and others accounted for a tepid point fall.

Yorkshire Electricity responded to news of the £1.5 billion joint bid from two US power companies with a leap of 63.2p to 822p. That compares with the terms from American Electric Power and Public Services Colorado of 927p a share. The bid must be approved by the regulator.

That leaves just Southern Electric, up 23.4p at 770p, as the remaining independent regional electricity company.

Elsewhere in the power sector, official trading began in shares of Energy Group, hived off from Hanson as part of a four-way merger. The group, which consists of Eastern Group and Peabody in the US, finished 43.4p dearer at 568.1p on turnover of almost five million shares. "New" Hanson, comprising the



Martin Beck of Fitch, which is paying dividends again

building products activities, closed 1p dearer at 261p.

The bid for Yorkshire Electricity left near neighbour Yorkshire Water 13.1p cheaper at 716.1p with the speculators ruling out a merger between the two utilities.

The rest of the water companies were marked higher as doubts grew about a Labour Government's ability to im-

Benson's new retail team. Bonds also rose 1p to 699.4p, although Kleinwort only rates the shares a "hold".

PPL Therapeutics stood out with a jump of 52.1p at 387.1p after signing up a licensing agreement with the Roslin Institute, which has developed a method of cloning sheep.

There seems to be no stopping Shield Diagnostics. The

William Holdings has been doing its best to reassure institutional shareholders about earnings growth following its recent £1.3 billion acquisition of Chubb Security. One buyer paid 32p for a line of five million shares, a premium of 1p on the ruling price at the time. It closed 10p dearer at 318.1p.

pose a windfall tax on profits. Anglian Water rose 6p to 64.4p, Thames Water 5p to 68.4p, South West Water 7.1p to 69.1p, United Utilities 6p to 66.7p, and Hyder 3.1p to 83.5p.

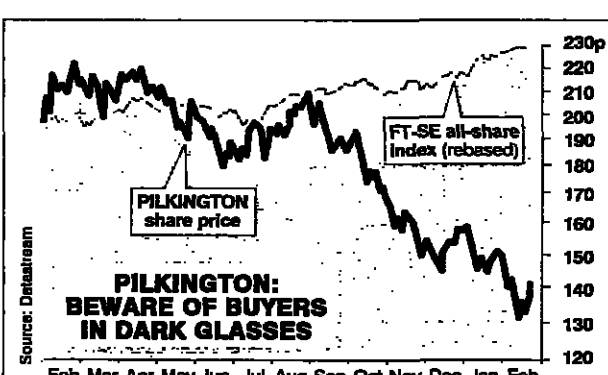
Profit-taking left Zeneca 24.4p lower at £18.71 after their recent strong run.

Marks & Spencer rose 8.1p to 488.4p after some positive comments from Kleinwort

price touched 635p before settling 38p higher at 567.1p. Investors remain excited about the group's new technique for detecting heart ailments early.

A profits warning left Shorrock Holdings, the builder, nursing a fall of 15p at 57p. AIM-listed Stanford Rook tumbled 10.5p to 530p on learning that phase three test-

ing of its tuberculosis treat-



PILKINGTON: BEWARE OF BUYERS IN DARK GLASSES

ment had been delayed. United News & Media firmed 16.1p to 70.4p with David Arculus quitting Emap as managing director to become the group's new chief operating officer.

MAID rose 36p to 198.1p after agreeing to transfer its hotel internet technology to the 4th Network Inc for \$7.5 million.

Racal Electronics touched 30.1p before closing 9p better at 297p after reports that Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman, planned to break the business up. In the past, Racal has demerged its Chubb Security and Vodafone divisions. Vodafone firmed 3p to 288p.

Third-quarter figures from Thoma were in line with expectations after last month's profits warning and the shares responded with a rise of 16.1p at 203p. The market reacted positively to the news that 90 Radio Rango are to be sold. EMI, the other half of the demerged company, fell 40p to £1.95 ahead of third-quarter figures today.

The market gave a cool response to full-year figures from Fitch, the design services group headed by Martin Beck, chairman and chief executive. It made a return to the dividend list for the first time in five years. Pre-tax profits grew from £1.53 million to £1.84 million, with shareholders rewarded with a 1p payout. The share dipped from 48.1p to 46.4p.

Sedgwick, the insurance broker, slipped 3.1p to 128p on the back of a "sell" recommendation from Nikko, the Japanese securities house.

GILT-EDGED: Bond prices fell by more than £1.45 as investors took a cautious view of events ahead of tomorrow's auction and the clutch of economic information due out from the US later in the week.

The bulk of the business transacted was in the futures pit where the March series of the long gilt finished 5.7p down at £113 as a total of 54,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 fell £1.32 to £106.12, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £3.32 off at £104.16.

NEW YORK: Rallies in a handful of blue chips sent the Dow Jones industrial average sharply higher in morning trade, triggering curbs on index arbitrage, and by midday it was 44.25 points ahead at 6,975.87.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday): Dow Jones 6,975.87 (+44.25) S&P Composite 405.35 (+3.58)

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 18,996.99 (+137.55)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 13,375.69 (+99.18)

Amsterdam: EOE Index 733.51 (+4.59)

Sydney: DAA 2,482.6 (+7.3)

Frankfurt: DAX 3,184.21 (+0.12)

Singapore: Straits 2,223.99 (+7.29)

Brussels: General 1,172.55 (+42.90)

Paris: CAC-40 2,567.85 (+5.01)

Zurich: SNA Gen 933.10 (+9.70)

London: FT 30 2,866.3 (+3.8) FT 100 4,331.1 (+5.7) FTSE Mid 250 2,114.52 (+0.03) FTSE 350 2,141.6 (+1.2) FTSE Europe 100 2,135.35 (+7.27) FT All-Share 2,114.52 (+0.03) FT Non Financials 2,162.15 (+2.58) FT Financials 2,114.52 (+0.03) FT Govt Secs 96.20 (+0.44) Barclays 526.5 SEAG Volume 679.1m USS 1,635.5 (+0.014) German Mark 2,720.0 (+0.017) Exchange Index 97.7 (+0.5) Bank of England official close (4pm) ECU 1.733 RPI 154.4 Jan (2.8%) Jan 1997-100 RPIX 153.9 Jan (3.1%) Jan 1997-100

RECENT ISSUES

C&S Publishing 175 ... Callidore Group 3 ... Callidore Warrants 1/4 ... Centrica (75%) 68 ... Energy Group (525) 568p ... First Russian Writ 487p ... GB Railways 179p ... Infobank Intl 141p ... J Lewis Hungerford 4 ... PSD (A/L) 28p ... Prelude Ltd 118p ... Prelude Warrants 41p ... TR Euro Gwth Writ 60p ... Tea Plantations Writ 102p ... Tea Plantations Writ 30p ... Technoplast 119p ... Zicor Mining 24p

RIGHTS ISSUES

Finella Gp n/p (320) 50 - 7p

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES: Pascoe's 95p (+21.1p) MAID 198p (+36p) Anglo Wiggins 172p (+11p) Av London 237p (+12p) Xanova 305p (+15p) Chiroscopos 412p (+19p) Old English Pub 230p (+10p) Eng China Cl 195p (+18p) Vendome 533p (+18p) Boots 899p (+12p) Courts Furnish 545p (+15p) Redland 347p (+8.4p)

FALLS: Shorrock 57p (-15p) Southampton 94p (-9p) Derby Group 269p (-12p) Emap 785p (-27p) Volant 710p (-10p) Catcher 710p (-10p) All Nippon Air 452p (-9p) Scotia 640p (-12p) Carn Energy 568p (-9p) Enterprise 626p (-9p) De La Rue 650p (-12p) DCS Gp 264p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS Building Hanson trust

THIRTEEN months after Lord Hanson announced the break-up of his creation, the Hanson demerger is complete. In the process, shareholders who stuck with the company and its successors will have lost more than one-quarter of their investment. Instead of one Hanson share worth about 205p, they now own shares in four companies - The Energy Group, Imperial Tobacco, Millennium Chemicals and "new" Hanson - which are together worth the equivalent of 151p.

The total has been dragged down by the US-listed Millennium, which has faced selling from UK shareholders. However, Imperial Tobacco made a bright market debut, and Energy ended its first day's trading up 43.4p at 568.1p.

The fundamental problem centres on Hanson itself. The demerger has shown how much advantage the group took from its

nimble tax planning. But as well as a higher tax charge, new Hanson must also battle with doubts over its balance sheet and its strategy. Hanson's pro forma shareholder funds of £562 million are dwarfed by £1.75 billion of provisions to cover US environmental and other liabilities. Unless it can provide more detail, this is likely to revive doubts about cashflow and accounting policies.

Hanson owns some strong businesses in markets that are broadly recovering. However, it will take time to convince investors that it has lost its hunger for the big deal.

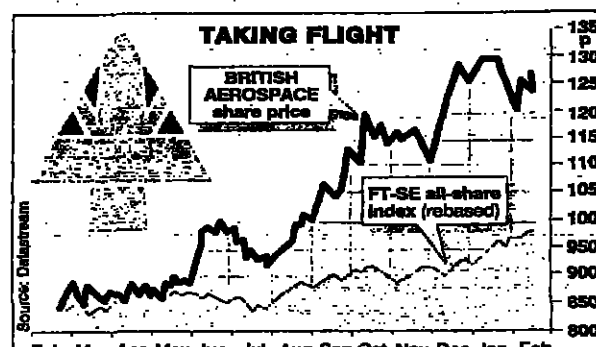
Analysts at BZW reckon that, even at a 25 per cent discount to the sector, Hanson shares should be able to command a price of 340p. Although that makes yesterday's close of 281p look cheap, it could be months before the market overcomes its doubts.

British Aerospace

BRITISH AEROSPACE and GEC are running rings around each other like pubescent teenagers. Should they or shouldn't they get together, they ponder. What are our mates doing? Isn't it a bit early for a full-blown relationship? What if I get hurt?

All we know for certain is that the two wallflowers have been caught snogging behind the bike shed a few times. Talks have taken place, they admit. A Bae-GEC wedding is the brainchild of Lord Weinstock, who cannot be blamed for the current pussyfooting.

He made several strong pushes during his GEC reign, but the irresistible attraction was not mutual. George Simpson, his successor, could now step out of his shadow in one swift move if he got Bae off the fence and into bed.



Thorn

THORN emerged from behind its big brother EMI last year looking frail and unkempt. The decision to shut 90 UK stores is the first sign that Thorn intends to spruce itself up.

Its problems are many and complex. In Britain it has to cope with fewer people renting televisions and videos, and with resistance to the idea of hiring kitchen tables, sofas and the like from the inappropriately named Radio Rentals.

In France it had a barrage of bad publicity when it opened a branch of Crazy George's, the brasher version of Radio Rentals, near Paris. The French considered the concept of renting household goods to be in dubious taste, and Radio Rentals now admits that the criticism effectively scuppered the trial. This has put the brakes on its hopes of a swift roll-out of its chain on the Continent.

In America the company is

still wrapped up in legal disputes and is facing vicious discounting by electrical goods retailers.

The decision to focus on Crazy George's in the UK and on expanding the US business into rural areas is sensible, but probably means more pain for Radio Rentals, with more closures likely. It will also be a while before it is clear if Thorn's strategy is working. In the meantime, one to avoid.

Regal Hotels

REGAL HOTELS very nearly acquired the White Hart chain of hotels for a steal from a desperate Forte last year. Granada's victory in the bid battle ensured that the price the company ultimately paid was more demanding, but as yesterday's results demonstrate, it does not look too high.

Regal has spent the first year cutting costs at the White Hart chain, a move that has ensured the hotel

profit contribution rose from 21.6 per cent to 23.3 per cent. The company now needs to prove it can succeed where Forte failed, attracting more customers and commanding higher rates through renovation and an improved marketing campaign.

Regal also has plans on the back burner that should really kick in once the revitalisation of the White Hart chain is complete. The company is keen to improve the food and beverage spend within the hotels and has had success with a branding exercise that will be expanded to a total of nine units this year. There is also the franchise deal with Carlson for the Country Inns & Suite brand. Regal will be looking for partners for new builds, restricting its risk to the operating side of the business.

Regal has made a good start, but the mid-market hotel sector is crowded and the company will need to work hard on its marketing to prevent being squeezed out.

COMMODITIES

ICE-LOL (London 6.00pm) CRUDE OIL \$/barrel FOB Brent (Physical) 19.05 -0.30 Brent (1 day) 19.00 -0.40 Brent (15 day) 19.00 -0.35 W. Texas Intermediate (May) 20.00 -0.45 W. Texas Intermediate (July) 20.00 -0.45

PRODUCTS (\$/MT) Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery) Premium Unk'd 205 (off) Lead 125.00 123.50 Tin 8,000 8,000 Naphtha 27.20 27.20

IFPE FUTURES (GNT Ltd) GAS OIL Mar 97 75.00-75.00 Jun 97 75.00-75.00 May 97 75.00-75.00 Aug 97 75.00-75.00

BRINT (GNT Ltd) Mar 97 19.50-19.50 Jun 97 19.50-19.50 May 97 19.50-19.50 Aug 97 19.50-19.50

RUSSIAN (Russia prompt price) Copper cable 4.50-4.50 Steel 2,700-2,700 Lead 110.00 110.00 Zinc 500 500 Aluminium 1,100 1,100

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Gold 240.00-240.00 Silver 270.00-270.00 Platinum 1,100.00 1,100.00 Palladium 1,100.00 1,100.00

RUSSIAN (Russia prompt price) Copper cable 4.50-4.50 Steel 2,700-2,700 Lead 110.00 110.00 Zinc 500 500 Aluminium 1,100 1,100

IFPE FUTURES (GNT Ltd) GAS OIL Mar 97 75.00-75.00 Jun 97 75.00-75.00 May 97 75.00-75.00 Aug 97 75.00-75.00

BRINT (GNT Ltd) Mar 97 19.50-19.50 Jun 97 19.50-19.50 May 97 19.50-19.50 Aug 97 19.50-19.50

RUSSIAN (Russia prompt price) Copper cable 4.50-4.50 Steel 2,700-2,700 Lead 110.00 110.00 Zinc 500 500 Aluminium 1,100 1,100

IFPE FUTURES (GNT Ltd) GAS OIL Mar 97 75.00-75.00 Jun 97 75.00-75.00 May 97 75.00-75.00 Aug 97 75.00-75.00

BRINT (GNT Ltd) Mar 97 19.50-19.50 Jun 97 19.50-19.50 May 97 19.50-19.50 Aug 97 19.50-19.50

RUSSIAN (Russia prompt price) Copper cable 4.50-4.50 Steel 2,700-2,700 Lead 110.00 110.00 Zinc 500 500 Aluminium 1,100 1,100

IFPE FUTURES (GNT Ltd) GAS OIL Mar 97 75.00-75.00 Jun 97 75.00-75.00 May 97 75.00-75.00 Aug 97 75.00-75.00

BRINT (GNT Ltd) Mar 97 19.50-19.50 Jun 97 19.50-19.50 May 97 19.50-19.50 Aug 97 19.50-19.50

RUSSIAN (Russia prompt price) Copper cable 4.50-4.50 Steel 2,700-2,700 Lead 110.00 110.00 Zinc 500 500 Aluminium 1,100 1,100

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Long Gilt Mar 97 112.05 112.05 112.05 112.05 59.41 Previous open interest: 211,774

German Govt Bond (Bund) Mar 97 103.38 103.38 103.38 103.38 99.44 Previous open interest: 30,824

Italian Govt Bond (BTP) Mar 97 103.00 103.00 103.00 103.00 6.73 Previous open interest: 13,570

Japanese Govt Bond (JGB) Mar 97 126.07 126.07 126.07 126.07 1.84 Previous open interest: 11,494

Three Mth Sterling Mar 97 91.73 91.73 91.73 91.73 49.79 Previous open interest: 12,495

Three Mth Eurodollar Mar 97 92.84 92.84 92.84 92.84 94.75 Previous open interest: 2,400

Three Mth Euroyen Mar 97 99.38 99.38 99.38 99.38 1.70 Previous open interest: 4,778

Three Mth ECU Mar 97 96.34 96.34 96.34 96.34 2.44 Previous open interest: 3,912

FTSE 100 Mar 97 4,331.10 4,331.10 4,331.10 4,331.10 2.29 Previous open interest: 6,697

Base Rates: Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

Prime Bank Clearing Bank 0% Finance 0% Discount Market Loans: Overnight high 0% Treasury Bills (0.5%): Buy 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5% Sell 2 mth 5% 3 mth 5%

DOLLAR RATES

Australia 1.2625-1.2633 Canada 0.6440-0.6447 Hong Kong 7.75-7.75 New Zealand 1.3400-1.3405

Belgium 36.5333-36.5337 France 6.5533-6.5537 Germany 1.6667-1.6667

Italy 1.3653-1.3653 Japan 121.00-121.00 Netherlands 1.6667-1.6667

Portugal 204.80-204.80 Singapore 1.3653-1.3653 Sweden 1.3653-1.3653

Switzerland 1.4532-1.4542 Taiwan 24.60-24.60 Thailand 50.00-50.00

UK 1.0000-1.0000 USA 1.0000-1.0000

Other Sterling Argentina peso 1.6320-1.6347 Australia dollar 2.0201-2.0247

Bahrian dinar 0.8075-0.8105 Brunei dollar 1.7111-1.7138 China yuan 8.2750-8.2750

Chinese renminbi 8.2750-8.2750 Danish krone 6.4600-6.4600

Deutsche mark 1.6667-1.6667 Hong Kong dollar 7.75-7.75

Indian rupee 50.00-50.00 Indonesian rupiah 1,666.67-1,666.67

Japanese yen 121.00-121.00 Malaysian ringgit 2.3300-2.3300

New Zealand dollar 1.3400-1.3405 Philippine peso 46.00-46.00

Singapore dollar 1.3653-1.3653 South African rand 6.4600-6.4600

Swedish krona 1.3653-1.3653 Swiss franc 1.6667-1.6667

Taiwan dollar 24.60-24.60 Thai baht 50.00-50.00

WALL STREET

Feb 21 midday Feb 22 close Feb 23 midday Feb 24 close Feb 25 close

AMP Inc 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39 39 39

Amgen 39 39 39

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Doomsday lasts all night

IT WAS an early start to the week for Christopher Garnett. Handing out refund claim forms at King's Cross station on Sunday night, the chief executive of GNER was doing his best to appease the hordes of harassed passengers after their heavily delayed journey from Edinburgh.

Wind had blown down powerlines, passengers had been uninformed, and the buffet had sold out. Accompanied by his daughter, who was on her way back to teacher training college in Durham, Garnett had prised himself from his house in Putney.

"It was a doomsday scenario," he tells me. From 6.30pm, he worked through the night, before jumping on an early morning train to York, his home for three days a week. "My daughter told me that it was easier teaching eight-year-olds than dealing with agitated passengers," says Garnett.

Hanson winner

THE winner of the 1996 Hanson Achievement Award works for... Eastern Electricity. Lord Hanson and Derek Bonham, Hanson's departing deputy chairman, turned up in person yesterday to congratulate Jacqui Harding, who is a customer services call centre manager at Eastern Electricity, which is part of the Energy Group that yesterday broke away from the industrial conglomerate. Sir Iain Vallance, BT chairman, was there to hand over the award.



"I hear they are moving this office to America"

Calling the shots

TONY BLAIR and Tony Banks crossed swords on Saturday on the launch of Radio Chelsea. Squeezed into a tiny studio with host David Mellor, the Labour MP let it be known that he had recently won at 66-1 on Chelsea to beat Liverpool 4-2. Faster than you can say Gianfranco Zola, Blair set to find out what Banks is betting on the election. Banks shot back: "I don't vote on elections, only on important issues."

BAMBL Is it a deer? No, it's a "**** awful MBI". The latest edition of *Venturespeak 2000*, a light-hearted A-Z of terms published by 3i for the venture capital industry, informs me that this is when a management buy-out goes wrong.

Jet-setters

THE Gold brothers have launched their own private flight charter. Ralph and his younger brother, David, see Gold Air International as a solution to their heightened fears over flight safety standards. The airline's siblings, who both hold a pilot's licence, have so far invested £2 million in the operation at Biggin Hill, Kent. (David won the Malta Air Rally on three occasions.) The airline currently comprises two small planes and in addition has access to two jets. With 90 companies under their wing, the Golds' next big project is the flotation of Birmingham City Football Club. The airline will certainly make a difference when it comes to away games.

MORAG PRESTON



Judy Ledger with her daughter Sara, husband Tim, and sons James, back left, and Richard at a special baby care unit in Wolverhampton

Charity's brief but unwelcome brush with the price of fame

Jason Nissé on the misguided headlines that brought heartbreak to Baby Lifeline

WHEN Judy Ledger picked up a newspaper last August she had one of the shocks of her life. Baby Lifeline, the charity that she had formed 15 years previously after losing three prematurely born children in infancy, was featured in banner headlines as facing an investigation by the Charity Commissioners.

The article said that the charity had spent 83 per cent of the money it had raised on administration and only a fraction on the intensive-care equipment for babies that it was hoping to buy for hospitals. Ms Ledger, a former nurse, saw her life's work collapsing before her eyes.

In fact, Baby Lifeline was facing an evaluation by the Commissioners, which tends to follow a complaint. There were 1,255 of these in 1995 and only 255 of them led on to full investigations. And the Commissioners admit that all they did was to give Baby Lifeline advice on its administration and presentation.

Baby Lifeline was exposed to the full glare of publicity because of its relationship with one particularly famous patron, Sophie Rhys-Jones, the girlfriend of Prince Edward. Ms Rhys-Jones was working as national projects co-ordinator for the charity having been introduced to Baby Lifeline by Brian MacLaurin, a public relations man and her boss at the time. Charities like to be associated with celebrities because it brings free coverage in the media, and most celebrities like to ally themselves with charities to give themselves a caring image.

"Sophie was working with me exclusively for just one day a week," Ms Ledger recalls. "Her involvement brought a huge amount of publicity. Up until then it had been good but after this story there started to be bad coverage."

The charity's corporate sponsors were unsettled, though ultimately supportive. Safeway, the supermarket chain, was the only one to withdraw its backing but it returned to the fold as soon as it was able to convince itself that everything was in order. It is now sponsoring the latest Baby Lifeline promotion — Mother & Baby Week — that runs from 2 March.

However, the reaction from the man in the street was bad. The charity has a

decentralised structure, with a small head office in Coventry staffed by only three people, and 40 satellite groups run by volunteers. The groups collect money directly from the public and saw a dramatic falling off in the amount they were collecting. "One person came up to a collector and said: 'I'm not giving any money to you, you're all embezzlers!'"

The fact was that Baby Lifeline had done nothing wrong. Its only crime was naivety in an increasingly cut-throat charity business. Ms Ledger believes that the accounts were leaked to the press by a rival charity. Even though the two charities are not doing the same work they found themselves going to the same sources for money and the leak strategy was attractive because Baby Lifeline's accounts for 1995 look quite bad.

The charity was expanding and had a large-scale launch at the Royal Albert Hall featuring celebrities, among them Dame Judi Dench and Anne Diamond. "It was a classic case of having

to speculate to accumulate. The event was to move us from being a very small charity to a national one," says Ms Ledger. The cost of the event was underwritten by Lloyds Chemists. But instead of separating this expense out in its books, Baby Lifeline included the costs and income in the profit and loss account so that it looked like it was spending a fortune on promotions.

On top of this most of the money collected comes from the local groups. But they keep 80 per cent of what they collect, and give all of this to local hospitals, so that only one fifth went through Baby Lifeline's accounts. Of this about half would go on expenses and the other half to good causes. But the accounts were presented in such a way as to make it look as though Baby Lifeline spent 50 per cent on administration, not 10 per cent.

After talking to the Charity Commissioners, Ms Ledger made changes. The charity swapped accountants to Leigh

Christou, a firm that specialises in charity work, and KPMG has offered assistance. The board of the charity has also been changed adding in a medical advisory council and a high-powered business advisory group — the first member of which, Alan Jones of TNT, the distribution company, has been recruited. Ms Ledger is now looking to employ a professional fundraiser to manage the group's national projects.

As she points out the charity business has changed substantially in the 15 years since Baby Lifeline began. In those days the charity looked to any source it could for money and it was all rolled into a single pot. Today there are a host of charities competing for the "compassionate pound" and charities use all manner of means to promote themselves heavily, most usually by working with corporate sponsors.

Charities will approach a company to underwrite a promotion, or offer free advertising or services. For instance, supermarket carrier bags often carry charity advertisements. Help-Ads, an innovative scheme to raise money for the Red Cross, sells advertising space on the back of products or, lately, on sports teams' shirts to related products, and takes the income. In the next few weeks Baby Lifeline will launch an affinity credit card backed by Bank of Scotland.

Ms Ledger expects that this year the charity will cover all its administrative costs from corporate backing. This means that money taken directly from the public goes straight to the charity. And the way of raising money has become more sophisticated. There are still people on street corners with collecting tins, but more and more are coming from give-as-you-earn schemes or covenants, both of which attract tax relief for those giving, or from bequests, with many charities offering free will-making kits to encourage this.

For Baby Lifeline the short, sharp shock it received has left it stronger in the end. But there has been one notable casualty. "Sophie, understandably, has to distance herself," Ms Ledger says, diplomatically. "She's no longer involved to the level she was."

Baby Lifeline can be contacted at Empathy Enterprise Building, Brunston Crescent, The Hill Lane, The Hill, Coventry CV4 9SW; or telephone 01203 44135



Working partnership: Sophie Rhys-Jones, left, and Judy Ledger

BUSINESS LETTERS

Carrying the can for takeover leaks

From Mr M. J. Ward

Sir, Pennington has put his finger precisely on the point where responsibility should lie for the kind of leaks that disturb the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers and other City authorities ("The eleventh commandment", February 5). If firms such as Citigate are found to have given information to affect a takeover bid battle then their principal, in this case Triplex, should carry the can. No professional public relations practitioner would give any information of this kind without a nod of approval from the client. The remedy in case of any breach should be censure of the client who, in turn, would do well to throw the PR firm overboard.

Institute of Public Relations members found guilty of such a breach could face a complaint and possible disciplinary action under their code of conduct. The City and the Panel should encourage the use of consultancies fronted by IPR members covered by the code. In turn, I am sure that the IPR would respond positively to requests to strengthen the financial expertise of its Professional Practices Committee.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. WARD,
5 The Lane,
Blackheath Park, SE3.

Interest rates must come down to avoid bloodletting of British industry

From Mr Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby (Labour)

Sir, The Governor of the Bank of England knows so little of economics or of the real world of making and selling things, that he just cannot understand the role of the exchange rate.

He sees a rising rate as a weapon against inflation. In fact it is damaging to manu-

facturing, and the consequences are already evident in reported losses and profit falls. That can only be the beginning when it takes up to a year for the consequences of exchange rate changes to come through.

It is axiomatic that if the exchange rate rises, either wages are too low or interest rates are too high. The exchange rate can only be "competitive" when we can balance

our trade in conditions of full employment at a high and stable rate of growth.

On any sane non-gubernatorial view, the huge rise in our exchange rate is clear evidence that interest rates must come down by 2 to 3 per cent immediately if we are not to see a third bloodletting of British industry just as Labour comes to power.

Doesn't the Governor realise that unless the exchange

rate is competitive, imports rise, exports suffer and manufacturing cannot generate the profits it needs to invest and grow? This nation still lives by manufacturing, and weakening it relegates us to a permanent balance of payments deficit, high unemployment and a permanent public sector deficit.

Yours faithfully,
AUSTIN MITCHELL,
House of Commons, SW1.

Sector Challenge extends scope of Government help to exporters

From the Minister for Trade

Sir, Tony Langford's letter on trade fairs of February 13 misses the point as to why we have introduced Sector Challenge as a means of enhancing UK competitiveness. This includes the important aspect of successful export promotion.

The Government considers it important to encourage our exporters to attend overseas trade fairs. We will continue to provide funds for a substantial number of trade fairs each year.

However, it is important that we ensure that the money is channelled to firms in the best possible way.

The Sector Challenge encourages businesses to propose new ways of using Government assistance which would not have been possible

under the Trade Fairs Support Scheme — for example, funding a series of events taking place over a number of years. The first round of Sector Challenge has been a huge success, with just over 600 outline bids for support in a range of projects including trade promotion.

The Trade Fair Support Scheme has always been oversubscribed and potential sponsors have to take part in an annual bidding round. The 300 successful TFS bids for 1997-98 were announced recently.

A further 60 bids for trade fair support were made under the first round of the Sector Challenge. Some of these take a broader strategic and innovative approach to the needs of their sectors as a whole and this is the type of bid which

Sector Challenge will encourage in relation to trade promotion. The advisory panel has asked for about half of these initial applicants to work up their proposals in further detail. Final consideration for funding will take place in March.

Naturally we will review in the light of the first Sector Challenge how best to provide for future trade fair support within subsequent Challenges.

I very much hope businesses will continue to exploit the Government's support for trade fairs as a promotional vehicle for their products.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY NELSON,
Minister for Trade,
Department of Trade and Industry,
1 Victoria Street.

Either way, we all pay in the end

From Mr Terence J. Howes

Sir, Your report (Business News, January 31) that Mr Ian Byatt, Director-General of Ofwat, is "concerned that this cutting of rebates to customers could benefit shareholders at the expense of customers". I had not realised that these were two different human species. Are there any shareholders who are not also customers?

We are often asked "why should the taxpayer subsidise the council tax payer?" — or the other way round. Either way, we all pay in the end.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE J. HOWES,
4 Presbury Drive,
Warminster,
Wiltshire.

Dangling the carrot of independence

THE City's teenage scribbles are now 30-something but, from habit, still wary of Labour. In the face of Labour's huge poll lead, they have taken some solace in making dire predictions about the economic legacy likely to face a victorious Gordon Brown.

Taxes, the conventional wisdom has it, will have to be raised sharply to return the public finances to health, and interest rates will have to be increased emphatically to head off another cycle of boom and bust. If anything, rates will be higher under Mr Brown than they would have been under Ken Clarke because Labour has to prove its anti-inflation credentials.

But none of this is necessarily the case. After last week's news of a huge repayment of borrowing, some City voices are becoming relatively optimistic on the public finances. And

merely to help the Government hit the inflation target. Quite rightly, Labour is keen to develop a Federal Reserve-type dual role for the Bank, asking it to promote growth as well as fight inflation. Labour's formula moves in this direction without an explicit growth target, which would be opposed by the Bank.

This is blameless evolution. But it is not nearly as important as the tactical fact that Labour means to remain in charge of rates as long as it sees fit but is, at the same time, dangling the carrot of independence in front of the Bank, dependent on its track record.

Far from Labour not being able to afford to defy Eddie George, this "virtue but not yet" approach to monetary policy puts the Bank on the defensive. Not only will the Bank be on notice to behave — it already

Labour's real purpose is to break down the monotheism of the Bank's current statutory role

seems to have been under the gun from Labour to prove its objectivity in the election run-up by calling on Mr Clarke to raise rates — but so will Mr George, whose job is due for review next year.

Such considerations aside, there are good economic reasons to believe that rates should not have to rise dramatically. Not least is the fact that the inflation outlook is benign, as both Mr Clarke and now the Bank publicly acknowledge. It is sterling's strength that has been most influential, and which suggests that the brunt of slowing the economy, if necessary, should fall on the fiscal, not the monetary, side.

Higher rates would make the pound even stronger and just imagine a situation in which monetary union is postponed, the mark soars and European rates are slashed. Even if we believe that the fiscal position is brighter than it was, it would be harder to cut British rates and limit the pound's strength if there was a perception of fiscal laxity.

In any case, tighter fiscal, rather than monetary, policy is intrinsically attractive to give Labour more leeway for spending programmes and to rebalance the economy away from consumption. None of this suggests that Labour will be looking down the barrel of an interest-rate shotgun aimed from Threadneedle Street.

Alliance & Leicester offers the best distribution of shares to members

From Mr Michael Hardern

Sir, Your report of the Alliance & Leicester Action Group's last stand (February 4) brings some sympathy. The essence of their complaint is that they feel they were misled into leaving large sums in accounts at uncompetitive interest rates in the expectation of a greater windfall.

Alliance & Leicester has come out with by far the best distribution. Five out of six members get bigger windfalls, 80 per cent of savers and all borrowers get bonuses 50 per cent larger than under Halifax

or Woolwich formulas. Alliance also allowed members to top up their accounts so they were not caught out by an announcement without the crucial £100 in their accounts.

Letters (February 4) touched on a "windfall tax on windfalls". Societies have not taken up the Demos think-tank suggestion that they give charity windfalls of 5 to 10 per cent for those not fortunate to have an account let alone a windfall. If the taxman steps in, they will have only themselves to blame.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HARDERN,
3 Rathbone Street,
W1.

Security
Swiss trust company

Resource allocation by a renowned

Rate of return 12.2%

Mortgage security
on actually completed and leased office complexes

Investments
from US\$ 100,000

Ask for documentation and information, without any obligation

Telephone 0041-1-3171515
Fax 0041-1-3171517

YOUR COMPETENT PARTNER

TIMES UNIT TEST DEFORM

1. **GENERAL INFORMATION**
 2. **PERSONAL DATA**
 3. **EDUCATION**
 4. **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**
 5. **FINANCIAL RECORDS**
 6. **PROPERTY RECORDS**
 7. **VEHICLE RECORDS**
 8. **TRAVEL RECORDS**
 9. **TELEPHONE RECORDS**
 10. **MAIL RECORDS**
 11. **NEWSPAPER RECORDS**
 12. **LIBRARY RECORDS**
 13. **CLUB RECORDS**
 14. **RELIGIOUS RECORDS**
 15. **MEDICAL RECORDS**
 16. **LEGAL RECORDS**
 17. **CRIMINAL RECORDS**
 18. **REMARKS**

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

[illegible]

**NORTH YORKSHIRE
WIDENING BUSINESS HORIZON**
Economic Development Centre, North Yorkshire County Council,
County Hall, FREEPOST, Northallerton, North Yorkshire DL7 9BR, UK
Tel: 01609 780780 Fax: 01609 779082 E-mail: EcoDev@nycc.octacon.co.uk

[illegible]

جلد ۱ من راجل



FILM
Baz Luhrmann's updating of *Romeo and Juliet* is one of the highlights of the Berlin festival



CD CHOICE
Building a Library looks at the best available versions of Debussy's Violin Sonata

THE TIMES ARTS



MUSIC
Yet another premiere for the Pierre Boulez work that has been 25 years in the making



TOMORROW
Bright hopes at the Barbican: can the City's culture palace finally fulfil its potential?

Hustler wins a place on the top shelf

The story of porn publisher Larry Flynt has landed Best Film at the Berlin festival. Geoff Brown reports

If you get through this film, you'll never need drugs again: these were the words of the American experimentalist Ken Jacobs, as some of the audience started to shuffle out during *Disorient Express*. Jacobs' film takes a train ride shot early in the century and processes it upside down. In reverse, side by side with its mirror image and, just occasionally, the right way up.

Needless to say, *Disorient Express* was not entered in competition at Berlin: it found its proper niche in the Forum for Young Cinema, famous home of the challenging and the impossible. Those competing for the Golden and Silver Bears were of a more conservative cast. There were too few surprises, and a few too many mechanical exercises, like Claude Berri's Resistance drama *Lucie Aubrac* — two hours of Carole Bouquet and Daniel Auteuil pulling stoned faces.

The jury responded with a mixed bag of prizes. In the absence of any masterpiece, Milos Forman's *The People vs. Larry Flynt* was an acceptable choice as best film, and Tsai Ming-Liang's *The River* is the kind of film for which special jury prizes were invented. As for direction, the suave eccentricity of Raoul Ruiz was well showcased by *Genealogies of a Crime*, although this was scarcely his most engaging film. One wonders too if Eric Heumann's direction of *Port Djema* would have looked so impressive without his use of Angelopoulos's cameraman, Yorgos Arvanitis. The jury's deliberations became particularly perverse over *The English Patient*, which picked up the Best Actress prize, but for the wrong actress: the person you watch is Kristin Scott Thomas, rather than Juliette Binoche.

But there were always exceptions. One might have expected more than a special mention from the jury for *Life is All You Get*, the most sheerly enjoyable competition entry of all. The most surprising, too, since you do not usually look to Germany for best-footed comedy. Wolfgang Becker's film takes a sideways look at love, unemployment and dysfunctional family life in today's Berlin, a city in perpetual flux. But there is enough gossamer film craft, and enough universality to Jürgen Vogel's hero, to make the film travel well.

Critical opinion was more divided over Tsai's *The River*. His first two films, *Rebel of the Neon Gods* and *Vive l'Amour*, established him as a kind of punk Antonioni, brilliant at depicting urban alienation. *The River* follows *Vive l'Amour* by pushing the viewer to the edge of exasperation, but pulls back from the brink through humour, tenderness and an array of sights hard to forget. Male bodies in shadow enjoy themselves in a gay sauna: only gradually do we realise they belong, unwittingly, to father and son. The son is the central character, plagued with mysterious neck pains after immersion in a filthy river. The father's problems relate mostly to the water flooding through the ceiling from the upstairs flat. Is the water a symbol and, if so, of what? No answer is required: this is a Post-Modern art movie, fractured but poignant, fit for the 21st century.

Other Chinese-language competition entries offered less challenging pleasures. *Surveillance*, directed by Huang Jianxin and Yang Yashou, found gentle comedy and romance in a story about two surveillance men locked in a tower waiting for a criminal's appearance. And Yim Ho pleased many with *Kitchen*, a skilfully wrought portrait of the hesitations and confusions of modern relationships.



"In the absence of any masterpiece, *The People vs. Larry Flynt* was an acceptable choice as best film": Courtney Love in the Golden Bear winner

Brazil played a strong hand with Bruno Barreto's *Four Days in September*, a solid, atmospheric, involving account of the kidnapping of American Ambassador in Rio de Janeiro in 1969 by naive young terrorists anxious to make their stand against a repressive regime. Through excellent acting, wry humour and a sharp awareness of human frailty, Barreto achieves what Berri signally fails to do in *Lucie Aubrac*: he makes history relevant. The most energetic entry from the American contingent was William Shakespeare's

THE BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL WINNERS	
Best Film (Golden Bear)	<i>The People vs. Larry Flynt</i>
Special Jury Prize (Silver Bear)	<i>The River</i>
Best Director	Shared by Raoul Ruiz (<i>Genealogies of a Crime</i>) and Eric Heumann (<i>Port Djema</i>)
Best Actor	Leonardo DiCaprio (<i>William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet</i>)
Best Actress	Juliette Binoche (<i>The English Patient</i>)

contemporary Verona Beach. America, home to gas station shootouts, Hispanic frenzy, buzzing helicopters and a camp masked ball. If you

prefer Elizabethan verse spoken with true understanding, this will not be for you. But if you want dynamic images, brazen cheek and two star-crossed lovers jubilant with beauty, youth and passion, Luhrmann and his leads Leonardo DiCaprio (voiced 'Best Actor') and Claire Danes deliver the goods.

New films from Spike Lee and John Singleton gift-wrap less desirable news. *Lee's Get on the Bus* rattled many nerves with its worshipful portrait of African Americans travelling to Washington DC for the Million Man March of

1995. "This whole thing is sexist and exclusionary," one of their wives says in the opening minutes. The grievance aired, Lee feels free to let his all-male busload talk and talk. The film allows a natural outlet for Lee's sermonising, but it hardly makes for compelling drama. The film shines, however, next to Rosewood, John Singleton's overheated response to a recently excavated tragedy of 1922, when racism and envy led to a prosperous black community in Florida being burnt and lynched by white trash. Elsewhere, the American independents plied their trade with the expected films about aimless youth, gender-bending and life's seedier side. In a crowded field, Alex Stiehl's *All Over Me* stood out for its vivacity, technical sheen and sensitivity to the growing pains of teenage girls.

The festival's annual showcase of new German product revealed nothing as impressive as Becker's *Life is All You Get*, and nothing decisive from the old-guard directors. Volker Schlöndorff got himself lost in the portentous Euro-mess of *The Ogre*. Wim Wenders marked time, albeit charmingly, with *The Brothers Skladanowsky*, an impish recreation of the life and works of Berlin's film pioneers who presented their first public programme in November 1895, six weeks before the Lumière show in Paris.

The most prominent German director on show, however, was G.W. Pabst, subject of an excellent retrospective. Pabst is known for a run of classic titles made from the mid-1920s to the early 1930s, including *Pandora's Box*, *Diary of a Lost Girl*, and *Westfront 1918*: films that take a hard look at social conditions on the city streets, in the trenches or down the mines. But during a long career he made much else besides, duly unveiled here, often in new prints.

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

BESTSELLERS FOR LESS THAN £2

The Times offers readers a choice of bestselling paperbacks from some of the top authors writing today for either £1.65 or £1.95 each including p&p. They include love stories, adventure novels and crime fiction. For each paperback you order you need one token from The Times and you can order as many books as you wish. Normally these paperbacks cost between £4.99 to £6.99. The offer closes on Wednesday, April 30, 1997.

THE TIMES BOOKS OFFER TOKEN 1

Post the completed form with your remittance to: **The Times Book Offer**, PO Box 96, Witney, Oxon OX8 6PG. Make cheques/postal orders payable to "Times Book Offer". If you have any queries, call Dakota Bestsellers on 01865 883725 during office hours.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

This offer is open to residents of the UK and Republic of Ireland. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to The Times Book Offer. There is no limit to the number of books an individual may claim, so long as an official application form is accompanied by the correct remittance and the correct number of tokens. Allow 28 days for delivery. Should any title become unavailable the distributor reserves the right to substitute an alternative title of similar type or value. Promoter: Dakota Marketing.

THE TIMES PAPERBACKS OFFER

Please complete this section clearly, it will be used to dispatch your books. If we are unable to supply one of your chosen titles please indicate the code of an alternative title that we may send in its place. CODE

Title _____ Initials _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Day tel _____

Code	Title/Author	You pay	Qty	Code	Title/Author	You pay	Qty
T101	Acceptable Risk by Robin Cook	£1.95		T108	Pieces of Justice by Margaret Yorke	£1.35	
T102	Blood Ties by Jonathan Kellerman	£1.65		T109	Polar Star by Martin Cruz Smith	£1.95	
T103	Cadfael: Dead Man's Ransom by Ellis Peters	£1.95		T110	South of the Lights by Angel Huth	£1.65	
T104	Fear of Flying by Enca Jorg	£1.65		T111	The Book of Evidence by John Grisham	£1.65	
T105	Facing the Music by Mary Sheepshanks	£1.95		T112	Wild Horses by Dick Francis	£1.95	
T106	Fury by Colin Forbes	£1.95		T113	The Rebel Angels by Robertson Davies	£1.95	
T107	Golden Fox by Wilbur Smith	£1.95		T114	The Ex-Wives by Deborah Moggach	£1.95	

Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to The Times Book Offer. Total value of cheque/PO £ _____

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further offers from The Times or associated companies ☐

CONCERTS: Minimal explosions to maximum effect; plus a welcome visitor

A GLANCE at the worklist of Pierre Boulez reveals a disconcerting number of compositions "withdrawn" or "in progress": few composers have been as rigorously, almost obsessively, self-critical. A work of his called *explosions*, for example, was given its world premiere in 1972 by the London Sinfonietta; 25 years on, the same ensemble was giving the London premiere of a work bearing the same name but now appearing in another guise.

The title encapsulates the kinetic/space fields through which the music moves: it belongs, in the phrase of the programme-note writer, Paul Griffiths, "in this energetic state of a trapped detonation". The elliptical dots are thus an integral part of the title, suggesting the unfinished, the continuous, the transitional.

In fact, two of the work's sections are actually called *Transitoire*. They are the two most substantial movements.

Crème Boulez

London Sinfonietta/
Benjamin
Queen Elizabeth Hall

each followed by an *Interstitiel*, and the whole rounded off with an *Original* — a kind of coda that reduces down to melodic essentials. The predominant sonority is that of the flute: a principal flute (played by the excellent Sophie Cherrier) is closely shadowed by two more whose role it is to mediate between the principal and the other members of the ensemble. That instrumentation, together with its computer-enhancement, lends the texture a sensuous quality and an unexpected consistency.

Shortly after the start of the performance, a further resonance was added to the title when George Benjamin's baton exploded, the top part spinning in an arc above the heads of the players, the bottom part, a pencil-length stub, remaining in his hand. With the latter he directed the Sinfonietta in an assured concentrated reading that evoked

the voluptuous tradition of Messiaen and Debussy to which both composer and conductor are heir.

By way of contrast, they captured in the first part of the programme the hard-edged lines of Varèse's *Octandre*, and the ash-tray-laced cocktail of three pieces by Stravinsky: the *Tango*, the *Preludium* and the *Ebony Concerto*.

BARRY MILLINGTON

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

DEBUSSY'S VIOLIN SONATA
Reviewed by Lionel Salter



ON THE outbreak of the First World War, Debussy, once a fervent admirer of Wagner, embarked on a series of six sonatas for different instruments "to give proof that French thought will not be destroyed". He was, however, already terminally ill and was able to complete only three of these, which he patriotically signed as a "musicien français". The Violin Sonata, the third of this group and his last composition, was for long regarded, even by enthusiasts for his music, as evidence of exhaustion and failing powers; but its finesse and leaner, more transparent texture reveal an imaginative concept now recognised as a purification of his style, and its middle movement, a capricious scherzo, is another manifestation of the Pierrot/Harlequin figure then so much in vogue with musicians and painters.

The sonata is essentially an intimate, introspective work, so that extrovert performances, especially if recorded in a large hall or a resonant church, conflict with its basic spirit. The earliest extant recording, made by Thibaud and Cortot in 1929, is available in transfers on three different labels; but that, apart from its frequently ragged ensemble, it should not be looked on as authoritative is suggested by a reading by

Magic abounding

THE last time Heinz Holliger conducted the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Symphony Hall it was as a stand-in for Roger Norrington in a programme not of his own devising. Even so, he won the confidence of the orchestra and, evidently, an invitation to come back with a programme designed to suit himself.

In the event, he chose to draw on the Swiss Baroque tradition and conducted a very welcome performance of the rarely heard *Four Pieces*, Op. 12 — a fascinating study in transition, echoing with eerie memories of *Bluebeard's Castle* while anticipating the magic of *The Wooden Prince* and even the seductions of *The Miraculous Mandarin*.

It can have made little difference to the balance of the programme that, Imogen Cooper sadly having had to withdraw with an injury to a wrist, Till Fellner substituted the Mozart Piano Concerto in F, K459, for the B flat, K595. Certainly, the F major proved to be fruitful material for the conductor who somehow got the CBSO woodwind to sound like a period-instrument ensemble. Against that background, the young Austrian soloist sensibly restricted

the piano colouring to more or less period proportions, offering an intelligent and generally stylish if somewhat prim account of a piece which requires just a little more wit and daring from its performers.

The open access to the reverberation chamber of Symphony Hall did nothing for the depressingly thick, much-doubled orchestral texture at the beginning of Schumann's Third Symphony. But that is something one just has to accept for the sake of so much that is extraordinarily inspired in the rest of the score. Indeed, by the time Holliger and the CBSO had got to the fourth movement, Schumann's solemn evocation of Cologne Cathedral, those wide-open doors were admitting not only acoustic atmosphere but also a distinct whiff of incense. It was an illusion, obviously, but also an indication of what can be achieved in this work by a frankly honest but unfailingly sympathetic interpretation.

GERALD LARNER

Gerard Poulet, the son of the violinist who gave the first performance (with Debussy at the piano) and who allegedly "taught him every detail of it". Too many players disregard the composer's markings of dynamics (particularly of pianissimo) or even reverse them, and though the music needs to be flexible, players are not entitled to introduce rubatos (a term Debussy employs sparingly) at their whim. Transitions between the work's often unpredictable changes of pace (especially in the latter two movements) need to be smooth.

Three outstanding performances, all faithful to the text, convey a dedicated sense of poetry that eludes others. I could happily live with those by Isabelle van Keulen and Ronald Brautigam (on Koch Schwann) or by Kyung-Wha Chung and Radu Lupu (on Decca — one of the many mid-price versions); but for sheer magic I would select Arve Tellefsen and Haas Pålsson on the BIS label (CD 28, £14.99).

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to: FREEPOST, SCO681, Forres, IV36 0BR or phone 0345 023 498; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk
● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Mozart's Così fan tutte

LAW

● ADOPTION CHANGES 37
● LAW REPORT 21

Anthony Scrivener, QC, protests about a growing trend in the press



Wrongful convictions? Three of the men jailed in the Carl Bridgewater case on the day of their release 18 years after conviction

Mistrial by media?

Colin Stagg was acquitted of murder, but that did not stop the *Daily Mail* from challenging his acquittal. Three of the young men acquitted of the murder of Stephen Lawrence were likewise accused by the *Daily Mail*. In each case the newspaper challenged those acquitted to sue for defamation. It was a safe threat to make. Legal aid is not available for libel proceedings.

The paper implied that in the Stagg case an irregular procedure had been adopted. No jury had been empanelled and the judge had made the decision. There was in fact nothing unusual about the procedure. The judge had been asked to rule on the admissibility of evidence; in the light of that ruling, the prosecution did not proceed because it was bound to fail.

In the case of the Lawrence murder, Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, on the advice of senior counsel, decided that there was not sufficient evidence to charge anyone. A private prosecution was brought which showed the DPP was correct. The judge threw it out because there was not enough evidence to leave the case to the jury; again a common procedure.

There are possible candidates for similar media attacks against people who cannot afford to sue for defamation. A man interviewed about the Carl Bridgewater murder was recently questioned during a television debate about suspicious circumstances which, it was suggested, connected him with the crime.

In the Stagg and Lawrence cases, none of the individuals accused was able to defend himself against media attacks, although four had been acquitted.

He is another safe target. In the 17th century the infamous Judge Jeffreys claimed that he was "clamour-proof", but that was before we had the tabloid press.

The law protects the sanctity of a conviction. In 1964, Alfie Hindes managed to persuade a jury in defamation proceedings that his conviction by a criminal court was wrong. This brought about a change in the law. Section 13 of the Civil Evidence Act, 1968, was quickly enacted. This provides

There is nothing to prevent those who have suffered loss as a result of a murder from bringing civil proceedings after an acquittal in criminal proceedings. In the case of O.J. Simpson in America, civil proceedings were brought after his acquittal.

Bringing a prosecution which fails means no further criminal proceedings can be brought, even if new evidence is discovered. This is why prosecutions should not be launched if the evidence is not strong enough. It is better to wait in case further evidence becomes available. In the case of *Seddon v Brooks*, the Seddon family successfully brought civil proceedings for damages for the death of a young daughter.

Once the civil judgment, was obtained the police brought criminal proceedings and Brooks was later tried and convicted of murder. Civil proceedings are properly conducted in a court with proper representation and rules of evidence to ensure a fair trial. There can be no fairness in a media trial. The newspaper can put forward its case in headlines that will attract the attention of millions. The best the accused can do is to get his or her side of the case published in a letter. Worse still, the publicity may make a fair trial impossible and frustrate any further court proceedings. Since the accused will not have sufficient funds to bring defamation proceedings, he remains acquitted by the criminal court but unable to prevent stunts from the media questioning the verdict.

The media play a valuable role in revealing unjust convictions and there is no legal reason why they should not criticise an acquittal. But if they are really concerned with justice, they should assist the relatives of the murder victim to start civil proceedings for damages and not jeopardise those proceedings by publicity.

The article about divorce court costs will be published next week.

Three strikes and they're wrong

Two weeks ago, the Government was defeated in the House of Lords during the committee stage of the Crime (Sentences) Bill. The House of Lords authorised judicial discretion not to impose a mandatory sentence on habitual offenders. The Government will seek to reverse the defeat in the House of Commons. MPs interested in understanding the defects of mandatory sentences, and of the populist penal policy to which they give effect, should read Lord Windlesham's new book, *Responses to Crime: Legislating with the Tide* (Oxford University Press, £40).

The Home Secretary wishes to impose a mandatory life sentence for a defendant's second sexual or violent offence, a mandatory sentence of seven years' imprisonment for a third offence of trafficking in Class A drugs, and a mandatory three years for a third offence of domestic burglary, in each category subject only to "exceptional circumstances".



DAVID PANNICK QC

COUNSEL

The Lords voted to empower the criminal court to give a lesser sentence to avoid an "unjust" result in the circumstances of any particular case. The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham of Cornhill, explained why judicial discretion is an essential element of fairness: "Rules of thumb do not provide an answer to these problems because the passing of a sentence is not a mechanical task." Parliament may set a standard sentence for particular types of crime, but if it does not allow the judge to depart from that norm on the facts of an individual case, judges would be compelled to pass sentences which they consider unjust.

Lord Windlesham was Minister of State at the Home Office in Edward Heath's Government from 1970 to 1972 and served as the chairman of the Parole Board from 1982 to 1988. He analyses how and why sentencing policy has become politicised in recent years. He recognises that appalling crimes, as well as disgraceful antisocial behaviour, have caused "anger, resentment and widespread fear of crime". This is exploited by some newspapers. Politicians of all parties are expected to do something. The depressing reality is that these are "intractable, and deeply rooted problems of deviant behaviour over which they have little direct control". But that is a subtle, and unappealing, message to convey.

So politicians promise to legislate, and to do so in a manner "thought most likely to appeal to an insecure and resentful general public". The inevitable consequence of simplistic solutions is to exacerbate complex problems. In particular, mandatory sentencing "causes unintended and unwelcome

repercussions in other parts of the penal system".

Lord Windlesham analyses how, in the United States, high crime rates, public concern and media pressure have ensured that "to be tough on crime was transformed from slogan to electoral necessity". The imposition of mandatory sentences for repeat offenders ("three strikes and you're out") has caused a massive growth in the prison population (even though many of those detained for a life sentence pose no threat to the public), a substantial reduction in the number of offenders pleading guilty (leading to long pre-trial delays, more victims having to give evidence, and lower conviction rates), and less public money for other (more effective) means of preventing offending behaviour (such as the number of police on the beat, and intensive probation services).

The Home Secretary's proposals are more targeted than some of the American mandatory sentences. But they will cause the same adverse consequences. Lord Woolf, the Master of the Rolls, correctly explained during the second reading debate that the Crime (Sentences) Bill, if enacted, would be "an extremely expensive way of making the criminal justice system worse".

Mandatory sentences are a public confidence trick. Lord Windlesham observes that they seek to reassure the population "by making promises that the law can at best imperfectly and incompletely deliver". Once the legislature has spoken, and the politicians have moved on to other vote-winning slogans, the judges, the lawyers, and prison staff "have to live with the consequences" of laws which add to, rather than help to remedy, the problems caused by offending behaviour.

On both sides of the Atlantic, lawmakers in the 1990s have been unable to resist the temptation to play politics with sentencing policy, to encourage the electorate to believe that judges are not imposing appropriate sentences, and that tougher legislation will ensure that we can all sleep more soundly, protected against murder, burglary and other serious offences.

It is much more difficult to lead public opinion, to explain to people the basic problems of criminology, and the absence of easy answers. Lord Windlesham's informed and informative analysis justifies his conclusion that it must be "for an independent judiciary, and not for politicians dependent on public support to decide on the degree of punishment which a crime deserves".

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Publicity may make a fair trial impossible and frustrate any further court proceedings

ted, and in the other, the man now being accused, over Bridgewater was never charged — not even by the old West Midlands Police Force.

If James Hanratty obtains a posthumous pardon in the case of the A6 murder, as it came to be called, the media already have an ideal candidate available for attack. After this length of time, he is rather old, but he certainly cannot afford to bring libel proceedings.

that in defamation proceedings, the fact that a person "stands convicted" is conclusive evidence of that fact.

The Birmingham Six, while imprisoned for a crime they did not commit, sought to bring civil proceedings that would have brought their convictions into question. The action was struck out as being an abuse of process.

The law does not protect an acquittal in the same way.

Will he, won't he?

MARTIN MEARS may not be contesting the presidency of the Law Society this summer after all. His running-mate, Robert Sayer, may go for the top job while he opts instead for the vice-presidency.

Mr Mears says: "We have pretty well concluded that Robert should stand for the presidency. The reason is that if we win, we would want to keep on *Caterpillar* (their 'alternative' Law Society magazine) as our publicity machine. But I emphasise that nothing is concluded."

Double whammy

A SENTENCE in a missive from the Lord Chancellor's Department to the Bar Council, during tense negotiations over its proposed new civil standard-fee system, reads: "We do not believe that our present scheme cannot be improved and we remain willing to consider any alternative scheme you can suggest that meets the Lord Chancellor's aims for standard fees."

In *Counsel* magazine, Robert Owen, QC, the Chairman

of the Bar Council, comments drily: "When you strip out the double negative, it appears to indicate both that the scheme can be improved, and that alternatives to a standard fee system will be considered."

Plus ça change

A NEW exhibition of the history of legal robes was opened by Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, in the Royal Courts of Justice last week. However, as the Court Service put it: "Legal professional dress has changed little over the centuries, matching the continuity of the English legal

system." In fact, the exhibition was originally on view in 1974, in a corridor near the entrance to the Law Courts. Now redesigned, it has been moved to the court gallery at the other end of the building.

Meet Mortimer

JOHN MORTIMER, QC, left, the writer and barrister, will be joined by two actresses in presenting *Mortimer's Miscellany* at Middle Temple Hall tomorrow evening. Described as an evening of reminiscence and humour, it will be in aid of Redress, the charity which works for the repatriation of torture victims. ● Details: 0171-278 9502.

Shining example

WESTMINSTER City Council's solicitor, Colin Wilson, has come to the aid of Cahit Topuz, one of the borough's shoeshiners, who is having trouble raising the weekly licence fee because trade has been badly hit by the inclement weather. He advises that the council could waive the street trading charges in "exceptional circumstances".

Good company

A SECOND woman has joined the top level of the CPS management. Dru Sharping has been promoted internally to keep Dame Barbara Mills, QC, Director of Public Prosecutions, company.

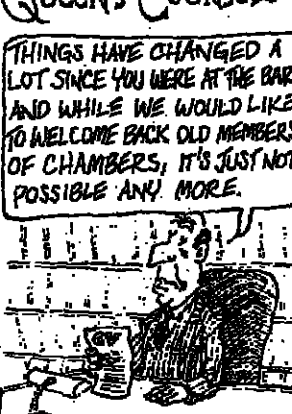
She replaces David Kyle as Chief Crown Prosecutor in the central casework division, and is only the second woman to hold such a post.

PATRICK ROBSON, a Crown Prosecutor, is to receive a Good Citizenship award for grabbing a defendant in a magistrates court and holding him in a neck lock after he made a bid for freedom when denied bail. Mr Robson will be presented with his award by the West Midlands Chief Constable, Edward Crew.

SCRIVENER

STUART & FRANCIS

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



CHAMBERS

23 LONG LANE
LONDON EC1A 9HL

TEL: 0171-606 8844
FAX: 0171-600 1763

BANKING & FINANCE

UK Merchant Bank
£35,000 + bens: City

Our client is the corporate and investment banking arm of one of the world's largest and best capitalised financial services groups.

A leading house in a range of capital markets and treasury products, recent acquisition and expansion has led to an increased profile for the legal department. As a result, a further lawyer is required who will be newly or recently qualified (up to 18 months ppe) at a City firm or a junior barrister. Previous capital markets experience is not necessary, though suitable candidates will have had some exposure to other aspects of banking law. Enthusiasm and eagerness to learn are, however, essential as the senior members of the department are prepared to offer an extensive training programme.

This is an exceptional opportunity to develop a specialisation in capital markets and derivative products, whilst enjoying the benefits of moving in-house in a highly commercial environment.

Chambers Banking & Finance specialise in the recruitment of lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information about the above positions or for constructive career advice, please telephone Deborah Kirkman or Stuart Morton on 0171 606 8844. Complete confidence is assured.

Securities House
NQ-5 years ppe: London

Headquartered in London, our client is a major international financial institution and is recognised as being at the vanguard of the innovative derivative product business.

The Legal Department has an enviable reputation staffed mainly by qualified lawyers from private practice/competitors or transaction management professionals. It currently requires two additional members to complement the existing transactional team which specialises in securities work.

The first position is an ideal first move, a newly/recently qualified solicitor/barrister. Although some experience of international finance would be advantageous candidates who can demonstrate a genuine interest in this area of law would be equally considered. Secondly it wishes to recruit a senior individual with a minimum of 'four years' experience of banking/capital markets/derivatives to play a key role within this specialist group.

Commerce and Industry

Contracts Specialist
Global IT client requires contracts specialist to prepare non-standard agreements and provide commercial guidance to sales and other staff.
Ref 28048 - Nicholas Woolf

Commercial Lawyer
Structured group of specialist businesses in a competitive field seeks a non-contentious lawyer with commercial acumen.
Ref 34285 - Nicholas Woolf

Outsourcing Lawyer
Commercial lawyer with 5-8 years' ppe sought by international service provider. Part of management team delivering essential corporate activities.
Ref 35357 - Nicholas Woolf

Corporate/Commercial
Top 10 plc with an international reputation in diverse fields seeks a high-quality senior lawyer with c.5 years' experience.
Ref 35150 - Gill Newman

Commercial
Top 6 accountancy practice seeks lawyer with 2-4 years' experience to handle developing caseload of property and contracts work.
Ref 34120 - Gill Newman

Sole Lawyer
Subsidiary of international energy group requires lawyer with 3-5 years' ppe for European role; experience in engineering sector useful.
Ref 35384 - Gill Newman

Reuter Smith
5 Bream's Buildings
Chancery Lane
London EC4A 3DF
Tel: 0171 405 4161
Fax: 0171 242 1281
E-Mail: reut@psd.co.uk
Internet: www.psd.co.uk



**Birmingham
& Leeds**

0-4 pge

An

invitation

to join

one of

the U.K.'s

leading

Tax

practices...

PINSENT • CURTIS CORPORATE TAX

Leaving London but refuse to compromise on quality of work? Not all City tax work is done in the City. Ask our partners; most of them come from top City firms.

Be it flotation work, M&A or tax driven deals; leading edge share schemes advice, privatisation work, innovative tax structuring or VAT planning, the quality and diversity of our work is hard to match anywhere.

As well as advising the corporate and property departments on major transactions, we spend at least half our time advising clients introduced to the firm by the Tax Department. What's more, the department contributes a substantial share of the firm's turnover.

To cope with demand, we are looking for young lawyers to join our friendly and supportive team where training and development is given priority. We think flexibility is the key. That's why we will encourage you to do the work you want, be it corporate tax, VAT, employee benefits or a mixture of the three.

We have opportunities for both tax lawyers and those considering a career in tax. We pay highly attractive salary and benefits packages and since we will only recruit lawyers who have potential to be partners, the career prospects are limitless.

If this strikes a chord, then we would invite you to have an initial confidential discussion at any time with our recruitment advisers at Quarry Dougall.



William Cook or Chris Coyle: Quarry Dougall Midlands, Cornwall Buildings, 45 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3QR. Tel: 0121 212 9555. (0121 707 1371 evenings/weekends). Confidential fax: 0121 212 9777.

Graham Manley or Carol Barber: Quarry Dougall North, 3rd Floor, Royal Exchange House, 800 Lane, Leeds LS1 5NS. Tel: 0113 241 9700. (0113 275 3338 evenings/weekends). Confidential fax: 0113 242 3033.

ADDLESHAW BOOTH & CO

YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HELP SHAPE OUR CORPORATE FUTURE

This year will be one of immense opportunity for everyone at Addleshaw Booth & Co. The recent merger of Addleshaw Sons & Latham and Booth & Co. has created The firm of the North with over 800 staff and 91 partners.

In 1996, our Corporate Department closed over 250 deals with a total value in excess of £2 billion. At least five of these deals were valued at over £100 million and with blue chip corporate clients as diverse as Adidas UK Ltd and Airtours plc, 3i Group plc and United Utilities plc our track record is impressive.

To succeed, you will need the confidence and credibility to work with the directors and senior management of many of the UK's leading public and private companies and the energy, drive and initiative to excel in our young, lively and ambitious team culture.

We need commercially minded lawyers for our Manchester and Leeds offices. You will be up to five years qualified with flair and an individual personality and will share our vision of the future and the opportunities which present themselves. Add to this a sound background in corporate work ideally gained from the City or a major regional practice - preferably in M&A, MBOs, Yellow Book, venture capital and flotations - and you should be a great success.

In addition, we are also looking for PFI lawyers from newly qualified to senior level, preferably with experience of commercial agreements, EC legislation and involvement in infrastructure projects to join the strongest team outside London.

In return, you will enjoy a career with a top twenty firm, an attractive salary package and a quality of life second to none.



To find out more in complete confidence please contact our advising consultants, Andrew Russell or Lindsay Sandford in Manchester on 0161 238 4908, (0161 929 0969 evenings/weekends) or Sally Harrois in London on 0171 377 0510 (0181 905 3396 evenings/weekends) or write to us at ZMB North, Portland Tower, Portland Street, Manchester M1 3LF. This assignment is being handled exclusively for Addleshaw Booth & Co by ZMB North.

CORPORATE
FINANCE
LAWYERS

MANCHESTER

LEEDS

23 LONG LANE
LONDON EC1A 9HL

CHAMBERS

TEL: 0171-606 0844
FAX: 0171-606 1793

Back in Demand

Experienced lawyers made redundant during the recession are back in demand. The migration out of London, when solicitors could only find jobs in the regions, is being reversed. This is particularly true of property lawyers, but it applies to most non-contentious areas of practice. We have seen examples of lawyers forced out of City firms several years ago being offered employment by the kind of firms they used to work for. Instead of jumping at these opportunities, however, they are resisting them. Their situation has changed. They have developed new skills. Working for smaller firms has taught them how to market themselves, and they have acquired a personal client following. If they go back to the City, these followings will be of no interest to their new firm, and they will lose them. In return, they will earn an excellent salary with the prospect (albeit uncertain) of becoming a partner.

Our advice to lawyers in this position is to hang on to their following if it's substantial, and to join a firm which suits it. For older lawyers, it's their security, their badge of success, the key asset that will make them attractive on the job-market when the next economic downturn arrives. A return to the City is tempting: a long-out-of-date indication. But having been through difficult times since they last left the City, they need to think carefully before stripping themselves of their hard-earned survival kit.

Michael Chambers

INDUSTRY

Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis

IT/IP: City
Opportunity for Solicitor with 2-3 years' general commercial experience to join hi-tech co. Expose of IP essential especially copyright and uns. Excellent academics required. Attractive package.

M & A: London
Opportunity for Solicitor with 2-3 years' pge and experience of acquisitions and general commercial work to join successful international company. Excellent remuneration.

Trademarks/Patents: London
Solicitor with 2-3 yrs' pge in IP or registered TM/Patent Agent to join well-known practice. Knowledge of contract law and conveyancing procedures desirable.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

SOUTH: Helen Mills, Alison Shepherd

LONDON: David Woolfson, Simon Anderson

NORTH: Sukd Bahra

Partnership Positions
We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Litigation Partner: West End
This medium sized WE firm has acquired a corporate team. They now seek a co-own lit partner with client following to further develop their commercial work.

Commercial Property: West End
Leading medium-sized commercial property practice has specific gap at partner level for 7-10 yr qual solr with good mainstream expoe. Small part-following is sought.

Commercial Litigation: City
A superb opportunity exists in one of London's most prestigious firms for an ambitious and talented commercial lit assistant with 1 to 4 years' experience.

Private Client: Central London
Gen of a niche private client firm offers 1-3 year qualified solicitor broad range of top quality work. Excellent medium/long-term partnership prospects.

Property: Home Counties
Solr with around 5 years' conveyancing expoe to manage plot sales for a leading property company. Previous expoe gained whilst working for a development company is essential. Attractive package.

Environmental: South East
Solr or Barr with 6 months - 2 yrs' pge req'd to join energy organisation. Work to inc management of PI lit and prop matters, also advising on regulatory issues.

Professional Body: City
Professional organisation requires Solr or Barr with at least 2 yrs' pge. Involves investigating disciplinary issues and advising on contractual and IP matters. Good drafting skills required.

International Project Litigation: City
Leading construction firm seeks several 0 to 5 year qual assistants to handle work arising out of international infrastructure project as well as domestic work.

Company/Commercial: City
Medium sized firm with recognised corporate practice seeks 1-4 yr qual solr for broad variety of work. Less frenetic atmosphere than some larger firms.

IP/IT: City
Leading practice consistently attracting complex IP and IT work for prestigious clients inc publishers, banks and multinational brand owners seeks 1-4 yr qual solr.

IT Partner Designate: Surrey
Specialist IP practice is expanding into IT sector and wishes to recruit a solr to assume responsibility for and to further develop this area.

Private Client: Cheshire
0-3yr qual solr is sought by broad based practice to handle private client matters, consisting largely of private practice, tax and trusts work.



National Power

In House Lawyers - Energy Start At The Top £Excellent

We are instructed by National Power, one of the world's leading energy companies, to recruit two young Lawyers to join its Legal Department based in Swindon.

The successful candidates will join a dynamic team handling a diverse caseload encompassing all aspects of the company's business worldwide. Your role will involve advising and assisting in relation to commercial, corporate, financial and contentious matters, many of which will contain a strong international element.

You will be newly qualified (or about to qualify) with high quality and broad based experience gained during training within a commercial environment. You will be capable of accepting a high degree of responsibility early on as well as being a good team player. Good drafting and communication skills combined with a resourceful and committed approach are essential.

An excellent package is offered together with the opportunity for considerable career development.



For further information please contact:
Jon Gurney, Solicitor or
Simon Lipson, Solicitor

**LIPSON LLOYDE JONES
LEGAL RECRUITMENT**
127 Chancery Lane
London
EC2V 6BT
Tel: 0171 600 1690
Fax: 0171 600 1972

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

Salary negotiable plus
substantial benefits

If you feel you match
our requirements,
please write with full
career details and
current salary to:

David Meaker
Recruitment Manager
Trade Indemnity plc
1 Canada Square
London
E14 5DX

Trade Indemnity is the premier credit insurance company in the UK and part of the international EULER Group.

Our core business provides cover against non-payment by a customer through insolvency and we have developed a portfolio of products which make Trade Indemnity Group PLC the most comprehensive provider of credit risk management services.

As part of our strategic international development we need a Lawyer to manage the Group's legal affairs and to play an active role in securing that development.

The Company seeks a highly motivated commercial lawyer with about five years post qualified experience to provide legal support and advice to Directors and Managers in connection with both strategic decisions and day to day issues including:

- General legal advice including employment law matters
- Compliance with appropriate UK, French and European company legislation
- Advise on international Group projects
- Company Secretary of Trade Indemnity Group PLC

A flexible hands on approach is required together with strong interpersonal skills and business awareness. You will be either a solicitor or barrister with some company secretarial experience.

Applicants must be bilingual English/French, with a knowledge of French Commercial Law.

Experience of the insurance industry would be an asset.

This position represents a unique opportunity to undertake a rewarding role with a market leader.

We offer an outstanding working environment in Canary Wharf Tower, excellent remuneration, superior fringe benefits which include mortgage subsidy, profit share, non-contributory pension scheme and free life insurance.



TRADE
INDEMNITY



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

The European Bank has a unique challenge to assist the countries of central and eastern Europe and the former USSR in their transition to market economies.

The European Bank supports projects in its countries of operations through lending, taking equity positions and providing technical assistance.

EBRD's Office of the General Counsel handles all legal aspects of the Bank's lending and investment transactions, including the Bank's borrowings, treasury investments and derivatives transactions, provides legal advice for institutional, administrative and personnel matters, and implements a legal technical assistance programme to support the legal transition process in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Along with a competitive compensation and relocation package, we offer action and achievement in a truly historical enterprise.

Capital Market Lawyer (ref. TT10)

Join the team of lawyers in the Office of the General Counsel working with the Bank's Treasury to handle as primary lawyer the legal aspects of cross-border capital market transactions. Work experience: five to eight years in an international law firm and/or a leading investment bank. Financial institution required. Substantial experience in structured transactions, derivatives, securitised transactions, total return swaps and debt products including MTN programmes.

Telecommunications Lawyer (ref. TT11)

Specialist in telecommunications law and regulation. Join the Office of the General Counsel to advise on legal policy issues and assist in developing the Bank's approach to regulatory reform in the telecommunications sector. Responsibilities: design and implement legal aspects of telecommunications regulatory systems in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Also responsible for legal aspects of financing transactions in the telecommunications sector.

LOVELL
WHITE
JOURNANT

D
LE



There are still 40 prospective sets of parents for every child that becomes available for adoption (photograph posed by models).

Adopting new values

Jilly Cooper starts her novel *Appassionata* with the hero, Rupert Campbell-Black, dashing to Bogotá to buy an adoptive child. By page nine, he has shot at a taxi, beaten up a policeman and decided against a cocaine deal. But we are on his side: his earlier attempts to adopt a British child have been met with "endless KGB-style interrogations by social workers". Will the changes to the Adoption Regulations, announced last week by Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health, be sufficient to ease such horrors from our system? Ministers will recall that previous forays into domestic relations, such as the Child Support Acts 1991-95 and the Family Law Act 1996, brought lightning crashing out of apparently cloudless skies. Are there any votes in adoption, whose numbers were down by 16 per cent in 1995? At 5,000-plus children, that represents one for every ten children in care, or one for every 45 born to unmarried parents — or one for every 30 whose parents were divorced.

Adoption is thus the most precious subject in family law. Demand outstrips supply and we employ an army of officials to referee the competition. Contraception, abortion, acceptance of non-marital and one-parent families, and a policy of patience with regard to children in local authority care, have all militated against parenthood by displace-

Will government plans for adoption help or hinder? asks Chris Barton

ment. Short of further raids overseas — which would break the Hague Convention — there are only two ways to help to shorten the odds: take more children from their birth parents, and/or open up the stepchild market.

Take more children from their birth parents? That would be the sweetest, privatisation: yet. Our social workers are so unproductive. They are content merely to give away children at an estimated rate of one per 40 customers. Legislation could open up this market, thereby privatising a cost which might otherwise fall on the State. Under the draft Bill, originally intended for last year's Queen's Speech, the welfare of the child would be the "paramount", and not merely the "first" consideration in adoption proceedings. It would extend the criteria in Children Act 1989 proceedings from the usual two customers, the child's parents, to those 40 or so takers for every

child who comes on the market. But instituting paramourism into adoption law could lead to a redistribution of our children. The welfare of the child would sanction not just the adoption order, as at present, but could also initiate the removal of a child from its natural parent(s) and disperse with the need for parental consent.

At the moment, there are two vital bulwarks to prevent adoption being used against any parent(s) whose performance might be bettered. The first is that the natural parent(s) must have voluntarily let their children out of their hands, except where the child is in care. The second is that the harshest ground for the overriding of parental dissent is the parent's unreasonableness, not the paramountcy of the welfare of the child. At its most interventionist, the new approach would require, not merely permit, the court to deprive the original parent(s) of the child, solely by

reference to the welfare principle. Only parents who are rightly confident that no one could raise their children better than they could would be wise to view this

manner with equanimity. At the moment, the likelihood of significant harm caused by bad parenting is the sole criterion whereby a child can be taken into local authority care, and it does not sever the parental link. Yet the new proposal would permit the ultimate intervention for far lesser reason.

Increasing step-parent adoption would be a less controversial step. In 1995, applications made by a divorced parent and "her" new spouse accounted for over half of the total orders made. Under the draft Bill, deregulation would be achieved mainly by reference to these reconstituted families. The incoming social parent would be eligible for "mere" parental responsibility in addition to, and not instead of, the absent biological parent. That would be available either on the agreement of both birth parents or by court order. At one stroke it would lower the stakes and reduce bureaucracy. Fully fledged adoption would still be available to step-parents and still be denied to cohabitants, so the law would continue to be seen to favour marriage.

● The author is Professor of Family Law at the University of Staffordshire.

CHANGES TO THE LAWS ON ADOPTION

- Applicants entitled to see reports on their suitability.
- Applicants entitled to appeal.
- Adoption panels must have three "lay" members.

- Adoption panels must try to include those who have successfully adopted children previously, plus those who have themselves been adopted.

Back to futures for the regulators

A Japanese Nick Leeson is on trial for losing billions. Who, Edward Fennell asks, is keeping an eye on the traders?

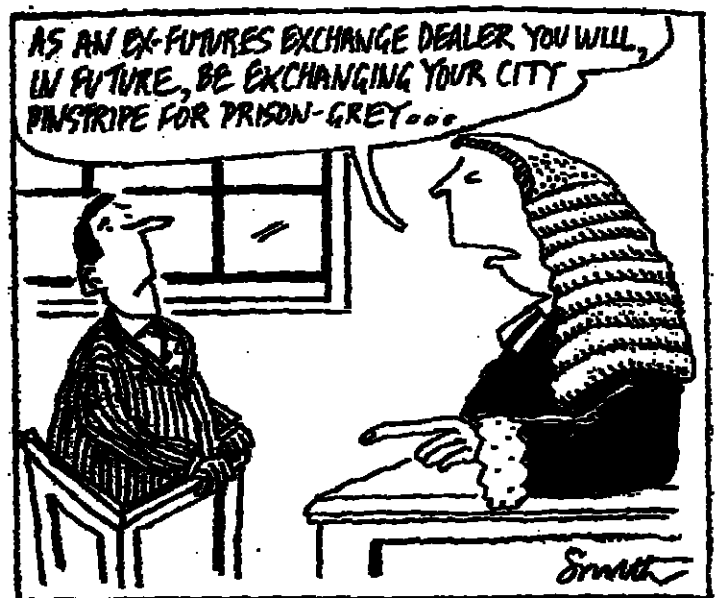
It was Back to the Futures Market with a vengeance last week with the opening of the Hamanaka trial in Tokyo. Accused of being responsible for unauthorised copper deals which resulted in a \$2.6 billion loss for Sumitomo, Yasuo Hamanaka is starting to look like the main course to Nick Leeson's starter. The fact that both cases are about futures trading and hinge on a London-Far East axis is not coincidental.

Critics in New York, however, of the conduct of the London Metal Exchange (LME) are not regarded too seriously by London lawyers. James Bagge, of Norton Rose, undertakes a lot of regulatory work and says there are limits to what can be expected of the exchanges, especially given that the key players in the Sumitomo case were not members of the exchange. Even so, he considers that exchange regulations may not have kept pace with the enormous growth in activity. He says: "There is a need for better access to information by the LME — more exchange of information between the authorities might have brought the problem to light earlier."

Legal advice to the exchanges tends to come from the blue-chip firms: Linklaters & Paines has a long history of working with the LME and Clifford Chance also advises several commodity exchanges. Lovell White Durrant, meanwhile, has considerable expertise in oil and gas and David Moss, a partner, says that there are periodically disciplinary cases arising out of conduct on the International Petroleum Exchange.

Eric Betelheim, the distinguished commodities lawyer based in the London office of the American firm Mayer Brown & Platt, is confident that the crisis in copper will pass. "The Sumitomo case does not pose a systemic threat to the LME," he says. "The important thing is that Sumitomo was able to meet its obligations. The same thing happened when ING took over Barings. So long as the bills are paid, there is no real problem."

Despite the massive scale of the Hamanaka case, Mr Betelheim regards it with a certain degree of



weariness. He says: "About once a decade for the past 150 years, someone has tried to corner the market in a major commodity. It always ends in tears."

Mr Betelheim is one of a small group of specialist commodities lawyers based in London. It is a niche area and most of the firms active within it are involved in the Hamanaka affair.

Unlike some of the more mainstream sectors it is possible for very small firms to be engaged in major work and probably the most important recent development was the decision by Richard Black, of the specialists Middleton Potts, to set up his own firm, RD Black & Co, just before Christmas.

Mr Black has made a name for himself as one of the leading commodities lawyers in London but, as he points out, "sometimes one just outgrows the firm one is with. I felt I could provide a better service to my clients and fulfil the talents of my associates by setting up on my own."

Mr Black is unusual in so far as he covers virtually the whole gamut of commodities work from what is regarded as the rather pedestrian "physical" end (transactions associated with the ship-

ping and delivery of commodities) through to the highly volatile derivatives market in which Hamanaka was active.

Most of the physicals work is fairly predictable. As Mr Moss comments: "In general, on the physical side, the issues are fairly stable. It's usually the same old points coming up again and again."

The more edgy work is in the derivatives field where bets are laid, in effect, on the future movement of prices. As Andrew Iyer of Ince & Co points out, it is not in the nature of dealers to check with their lawyers before making innovative or opportunistic deals.

He says: "I've never had a dealer come to me and ask 'Will what I am doing be OK with the regulators?' It is only when things have gone wrong that they ask for advice."

That is why interest has focused so much on the growth of the financial services side of the commodities business.

Mr Moss says: "The world's appetite for financial products is not diminishing. Commodities futures is an important part of that expansion."

Commercial Litigation Lawyers

Hong Kong

Lovell White Durrant is one of the largest international law firms with a complement of over 1,400 staff located in ten of the world's major cities. Our Hong Kong office is the centre of our Asian practice and we are looking to recruit high calibre lawyers to deal with a variety of commercial litigation work within this office.

Applicants should have:

- a strong academic background
- one to three years post-qualification experience of commercial litigation, preferably with another major law firm (applications from candidates

with less experience but a strong academic background are also encouraged)

- an excellent command of written and spoken English and Chinese (the ability to speak Putonghua as well as Cantonese would certainly be an advantage)

An attractive salary and benefits package will be offered to the right candidates. Please send your application, including full resume, by fax to the Office Manager, Lovell White Durrant, 11/F, Peregrine Tower, Lippo Centre, Queensway, Hong Kong.

Fax No: (852) 2868 4051

LOVELL WHITE DURRANT

CHICAGO • NEW YORK
PARIS • BRUSSELS • FRANKFURT
HONG KONG • BEIJING • TOKYO

Our client, a young, entrepreneurial business group with a strong financial base, is looking to diversify into other business sectors outside their core of marketing database services. This Board appointment is an exceptional opportunity for a highly talented and commercially astute

DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

Highly Competitive Salary + Bonus + Jaguar XJR

Reporting directly to the Owner/Chairman you will have sole responsibility for all legal matters affecting the group. This will include liaising with external advisors, overseeing and advising on acquisitions, disposals, litigation, employment and taxation law, intellectual property rights as well as property purchase and disposal. As a key advisor to the various businesses, dealing with issues at the earliest stage, your commercial legal experience will enhance the quality of decision making within the Company.

Please apply in writing with full CV and salary details to Richard Edmondson, Mercuri Urval Limited, Peat House, 45 Church Street, Birmingham B3 2RT, quoting reference 1902/212.

Mercuri Urval

Northampton

You will have at least 5 years' POE within an in-house corporate role, and have been exposed to a wide range of commercial legal issues. With excellent problem solving abilities you will have the confidence and communication skills to make a significant impact on the Company's future development. The remuneration package will reflect our client's commitment to seeking an outstanding individual. Relocation package is available where appropriate.

Mid size City commercial firm seeks a junior solicitor qualified in both the UK and South Africa and with commercial/corporate experience to assist in servicing its growing SA client base.

Please apply with full cv to BOX NO. 3403

NEW YORK QUALIFIED INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FINANCE LAWYER

We are a successful internationally-based US law firm. We are seeking an ambitious New York qualified lawyer to be based in our London offices. s/he will work closely with our New York office on the privatisation of utilities in Pakistan and Bangladesh and other project finance work.

The successful candidate will be at least 4 years qualified, with experience of working in general corporate and project finance law in an international environment, specifically Pakistan.

Fluency in Urdu would be an advantage.

Salary £65,000 - £68,000

Replies to Box No 3183

مکذا من الامم

CORPORATE LAWYERS

WHAT DO YOU **get** FOR
MOVING **On** TO A FIRM WHICH
IS DEVELOPING AS **fast** AS WE ARE?

Progression.

Fee income in our corporate department grew by 38% in 1996. We are ranked by the Legal 500 as a leading, medium-sized, commercial, City firm highly rated for both our MBO and M&A work.

Corporate partners made up in 1996 included one that had less than 7 years' ppe and one who had just returned from maternity leave. We have a Head of Department aged 37.

Our growing success means we are looking for more corporate lawyers with 1-4 years' ppe. We can offer something different. An internal culture which both motivates and supports. A growing client base which produces a rapid turnover of high quality deals. With us, a variety of work is guaranteed, not a privilege. We will help you to build on your technical excellence and to be more innovative and creative in your approach. Naturally, we will pay you a top City salary.

Our sense of purpose is to be the best. If yours matches ours and you want to get on fast, we would like to meet you.

To find out more about Berwin Leighton and opportunities in the corporate department, please contact our retained consultants **Stephen Rodney** or **Alison Jacobs** on 0171-405 6062 (0171-334 3079/0171-731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Douglall Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

BERWIN LEIGHTON

MUSIC INDUSTRY ORGANISATION COMMERCIAL/IP LAWYER

2-4 years' ppe from private practice To £45,000 + benefits

Our client, a leading music industry organisation located in Central London, wishes to appoint a legal adviser to join its team. The successful candidate will be a commercial lawyer from private practice with between 2 and 4 years ppe.

The appointment involves providing advice on all legal implications of the organisation's business, advising and lobbying senior UK government and EC representatives, and monitoring developments in music industry related worldwide copyright treaties, European Directives and domestic legislation.

As well as a good knowledge of intellectual property and copyright issues, the successful applicant will have a practical approach to legal matters coupled with a keen awareness of the commercial implications. There is frequent contact with other leading media organisations and good negotiating skills are therefore required.

A key attribute will be the ability to communicate well with senior executives in the industry and because the music industry is truly international, it would be helpful, although not essential, to have a good knowledge of one or more foreign languages.

Reporting to the Chief Executive, this is a rare and exciting opportunity to start a career in one of this country's most dynamic and successful industries. There is a friendly working environment and the excellent salary which is supplemented by attractive benefits, reflects the importance of the appointment.



For further information in complete confidence, please contact **Jane Meseré** or **Kate Sutcliffe** (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-789 9933 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Douglall In-house Legal**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Douglall In-house Legal and all direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.

LAWYER TO COVER MATERNITY LEAVE

Virgin Interactive Entertainment is looking for a lawyer with a minimum of 3 years experience to join its Legal and Business Affairs Department to cover maternity leave for approximately 4 months. You will need to have good organisational skills and be detail oriented. Above all you will need to be commercially effective and able to work within a dynamic team environment.

You should be legally qualified in the UK and have experience in contract and copyright law as well as experience of media contracts if possible. Experience of the Multi Media industry and/or EC Competition issues would be a great advantage.

Send your CV with covering letter to the
Human Resources Team at
Virgin Interactive Entertainment, 2 Kensington
Square, London W8 5RB

Closing date for applications Friday March 7th.



BANKING LAWYER London

Hammond Suddards, one of the UK's largest commercial law firms, is seeking to employ a lawyer with one to two years post qualification experience in the banking field for their London office.

Of particular interest would be experience in advising on standard form documents in the commercial banking field. Separately, lawyers with trade finance experience are also required.

We are an equal opportunities employer and can offer an attractive salary and benefits package, working in a pleasant non smoking environment.

Please forward your curriculum vitae
and covering letter to:
Monica Amourous, Personnel Officer
Hammond Suddards
Moor House
119 London Wall
London EC2Y 5ET

HAMMOND SUDWARDS
SOLICITORS

OLSWANG COMPETITION LAWYERS

**Are you 3-5 years qualified and bored with completing
Forms CO and drafting mundane notifications?**

We are looking for a senior assistant, ideally 3-5 years qualified, to play a key role in our expanding competition and regulatory group. Given our focus, a large part of your work will relate to the media and communications sectors, which have given rise to some of the most controversial and difficult competition law issues in recent years. You will also help to support our strong and growing corporate practice.

You will be involved in UK and international merger clearances, MMC inquiries, OFT investigations and advice on the RTPA and Articles 85 and 86. Many of our clients operate in industries with their own competition law based regulators, including the ITC, OFTEL and their international equivalents.

You do not need to have experience of the media and communications industries but you will be able to combine excellent competition law experience with a strongly commercial approach and be keen to take responsibility for helping us further develop our practice in this area.

ZARAK
MACRAE
BRENNER

For further information in complete confidence, please contact our consultants,
Jonathan Brenner or **Yvonne Smyth**, on 0171-377 0510 (0181-940 6848 evenings/weekends)
or write to them at **Zarak Macrae Brenner**, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential
fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail jonathan@zmb.co.uk

ZMB



LEGAL COUNSEL EUROPEAN MANUFACTURING FACILITY

LIMERICK

EXCELLENT PACKAGE

Dell Computer Corporation is the world's leading direct marketer of computer systems with worldwide revenues of US\$6.9 billion. Constant growth at Dell offers a challenging new position as Legal Counsel for the European manufacturing facility in Ireland. The facility employs more than 1200 people.

The Role

As a key member of operational management and the European legal team, you will be responsible for legal advice on all matters affecting the facility including procurement arrangements, logistics/distribution activities, regulatory requirements and employment issues.

You will need to work closely with the Corporation's worldwide team of lawyers.

The Person

UK, US or Irish qualified you will have at least four years commercial law experience, ideally gained in a multinational corporation. You will need the practical proactive business approach required for a fast-moving environment and you should enjoy teamwork but also be able to operate independently.

Dell Computer Corporation have instructed **Laurence Simons International** on an exclusive basis and any direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them. Please contact **Naveen Tuli** or **Laurence Simons** personally.

◀ ▶ **LAURENCE SIMONS** ▶ ▶
International Legal Recruitment

Craven House, 121 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PA Tel +44 (0)171 831 3270, Fax +44 (0)171 831 4429

E-mail: laurence@laurencsimons.demon.co.uk

LONDON FOCUS

SENIOR IP

This top 20 City firm offers senior and junior IP partners from first rate practices the chance to take a lead role in its highly innovative and important IP department. The work spans around 70/30 in favour of contentious/non-contentious matters and you will be expected to bring some good contacts with you. Ref: T36381

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION To £55,000
An excellent opportunity for a commercial litigation specialist with 18 months to 4 years' ppe at another leading practice to join this highly respected top 10 firm. You have every right to expect to work for the very best clients and enjoy the very best prospects, and you won't be disappointed. Ref: T4814

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY To £46,000
If you are good enough, you will make partner at this well-known City firm. There is absolutely no bar to partnership here and property lawyers with 0-3 years' ppe can also expect an excellent salary and client contact. Work will include inward investment, development, corporate support and finance-related matters. Ref: T28162

COMPETITION/MEDIA To £53,000
Become a major EC/competition star at this highly-rated top 20 City firm. Your work will have a heavy bias towards media work but will also employ you on a range of more general matters. A great move for a lawyer with 3-5 years' ppe, not necessarily all in media, but some regulatory experience would help. Ref: T24968

CORPORATE To £60,000
The London office of this major national firm reflects the exceptionally vibrant nature of its growth and business. It is an exciting place for corporate lawyers with 1-5 years' ppe in the City and strong personalities as they can expect to make real and rapid progress working for some household names. Ref: T19491

PENSIONS To £60,000
If you want to be taken seriously as a pensions lawyer, look no further than this City firm, arguably the leading niche practice in the country. It is currently swamped with work for a string of blue-chip clients and now needs pensions lawyers with 0-5 years' ppe to come and build his or her reputation. Ref: T37754

PROPERTY LITIGATION To £42,000
This is your chance to work at one of the City's leading corporate firms and enjoy the challenges thrown up by acting for some of the country's leading companies. An excellent opportunity for a property litigation lawyer with 2-3 years' ppe to shine at a firm renowned for its friendly atmosphere. Ref: T12518

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact **Deborah Delghech**, **Alison Jacobs** or **Sarah David** (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-520 4559 or 0171-731 5699 evenings/weekends) or write to them at **Quarry Douglall Recruitment**, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.



LONDON • BIRMINGHAM • LEEDS • MANCHESTER • HONG KONG • PARIS • NEW YORK • SYDNEY • MELBOURNE • AMSTERDAM

ADVERTISE CALL
021 680 6828

EURO
South East

QD

CITY










EAGAN

UNLYDE & GILBERT

Dickinson, Hendry &
Insurance Department
Lyde & Gilbert
House, 15 St
Street, London

FAX:
0171 782 7899

If this is the challenge you have been waiting for, please contact June Mesrie or Rebecca Errington (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-357 0912 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Douglall In-House Legal and all direct or third party enquiries will be forwarded to them.

								
Brian	Wheatcroft	King OBE	Trust	Vickers	Ticon	Empson	Lawson	Clarke

The 6th Annual Conference & Workshop

COMPETITIVE MARKETING for ACCOUNTANTS and SOLICITORS

Winning & Retaining Clients

— The Client Speaks Out —
Thursday 27 February 1997

Sponsored by

THE TIMES

at The Royal Aeronautical Society, Hyde Park Corner, London W1

The core of building and growing a professional service must be the winning and retaining of your clients. Are you doing it as effectively and efficiently as your competitors? What do clients really think? Six senior clients will be telling all. Another five experts will demonstrate actionable points you can implement.

Conference Chairman CHRISTOPHER WHEATCROFT *Partner, Head of Middle Market* DELOITTE & TOUCHE
JOHN KING OBE *Chief Executive* SECURITY FACILITIES EXECUTIVE
HENRIK TILSEN *Director of Strategic Development & Corporate Finance* TIBBETT & BRITTEN
SIMON YENCKEN *General Counsel & Company Secretary* REUTERS
HOWARD TRUST *Group General Counsel & Group Secretary* BARCLAYS
PAUL VICKERS *Legal Director & Company Secretary* MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS
MARK LAWSON *Legal Director* MASTERS INTERNATIONAL
DON JERRARD *Partner* BAKER & MCKENZIE
BOB EMPSON *Partner* SMITH & WILLIAMSON
GARETH BLINN *Partner* ERNST & YOUNG
BARRY CLARKE *Chairman* CLARKE HOOPER

An Optional Workshop on the 28th February will be an in-depth and interactive day on how to:

- Improve your win rate on competitive tenders
- Break out of the Box and throw away the rulebook
- Proactively retain clients
- Generate profitable leads

with presenters from *Sloman & Simmons, Coopers & Lybrand, the Trade Association*

Serve Pipe Entrepreneur of the Year

TIMES Readers have a special price of £224 plus VAT for this conference (reduced from £260 plus VAT).
The Conference and workshop is reduced to £214 plus VAT.

Winning & Retaining Clients

Name _____ Position _____

Firm / Organisation _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Tel _____

I enclose a cheque for £_____ payable to CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS, or charge my

Visa/Master Card/AmEx _____ My card number is: _____ Expiry _____/_____/_____

☐ Conference £324 + VAT = £380.70 ☐ Conference & Workshop £614 + VAT = £721.45

Mail or fax to: Chris Kohut, CENTURY COMMUNICATIONS,
 11 Queen's Gate Place, London SW7 5NX Tel 0171-838 0008 Fax 0171-838 0009

هكذا من راصل

PRIVATE PRACTICE/IN-HOUSE

BANKING/JUNIOR PARTNER £80-100,000

London office of best growing national practice with strong core banking and leasing both mainstream banking and capital markets work seeks to add strength and depth across the full spectrum of its business practice. You will be a senior partner or a junior partner who is excited by the challenge of working in a young, narrowly managed environment and challenging the conventional distribution of City banking work, and has experience of mainstream banking, syndicated lending and some asset finance. (Ref:7897)

PROJECTS £40-80,000

Established, thriving London office of top US practice has developed pre-eminent project practice. With a team of partners and senior associates busy in place, several junior and mid-level associates are now sought. Successful candidates will have up to five years' relevant PQE and the fair and interpersonal skills necessary to succeed in this challenging environment. Significant premiums are on offer at all levels including newly qualified. (Ref:7250)

EUROPEAN MEDIA/GERMAN £215,000

London based European media organisation are seeking to recruit a senior media lawyer with 12 years' high quality experience in Europe, ideally gained in-house. The ideal candidate will be qualified in Germany although they will consider UK qualified solicitors who speak fluent German. The role will be very broad, encompassing general commercial, distribution and cable law issues. This is an exceptionally dynamic, young and creative working environment, and a great opportunity for a German lawyer to move to London. (Ref:7462)

PROPERTY TO £61,000

The last couple of years have seen dramatic increases in activity levels for commercial property departments. Excellent, ambitious lawyers are sought by a blue chip City firm which generally has one of the best quality mix of property work including leasing, development, public sector and acquisition work. Deliberately not for "corporate support" lawyers. (Ref:6384)

GENERAL COMMERCIAL TO £35,000

This medium-sized firm are looking for a general commercial lawyer, ideally around 2 years' qualified, to assist a partner with general commercial work, including international trade, partnership law, construction contracts and consumer agreements. As a genuinely friendly laid-back firm, this represents an interesting alternative to the larger City commercial practices. (Ref:5015)

For further information in complete confidence on these and the many other private practice vacancies registered with us, please contact Yasmin Phillips or Andrew Caulfield (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-377 0510 (0171-376 4968 evenings/weekends). If you are interested in in-house vacancies please contact Lisa Hicks on 0171-377 0510 (0171-376 5548 evenings/weekends). Alternatively, write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 0171-247 5174. E-mail yasmin@zmb.co.uk.

ZMB

ZARAK
MACRAE
BRENNERSingapore
Corporate Finance

As a leading international law firm, Norton Rose offers a service that is designed to meet the needs of its clients around the world. Our highly successful Singapore Office is expanding rapidly and wishes to recruit exceptional lawyers to meet the increasing demands of our clients. We are seeking ambitious senior corporate lawyers to join a dynamic team to advise on the following:

- Securities
- Cross Border Mergers and Acquisitions
- Joint Ventures

For details of our opportunities for career development, highly competitive salary and benefits package, please send your CV to Celia Staples.

Norton Rose

Kempson House, Cannon Street, London EC3A 7AN.
Telephone: 0171 283 6000.
Fax: 0171 283 6500.

LONDON HONG KONG BRUSSELS PARIS SINGAPORE BAHRAIN PIRAEUS MOSCOW

Patent Attorney
Harlow
Competitive

...of the world's leading communications companies, with operations in over 100 countries and worldwide revenues in

We now have an opportunity for a Patent Attorney whose role will be to identify, acquire, maintain and advise on the company's IPR and third party IPR. With a Science degree and at least three years' experience in a patent department, you must be a Chartered Patent Agent or at 'Finals' stage, and have the ability to converse equally confidently with inventors and commercial people within the organisation.

An energetic person who understands electronics, telecommunications or software and is attentive to detail, you will relish the challenges of applying a 'customers first' approach to inventors and working within an environment where Intellectual Property enjoys a very high profile.

The right candidate can expect a highly competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with your skills and experience and our own profile as a highly successful international organisation. You can also look forward to excellent long-term career prospects, including international opportunities.

To apply, please send, fax or email a typed CV, including salary details and quoting Ref: ENA04615 to our Resourcing Centre on 0181 945 3018 at Nortel Limited, Clyde House, Waldeck Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 2BB. Email: resourcing_centre@nt.com. When sending your CV, quote the reference on both the outside of the envelope and on your CV.

There are many other opportunities within Nortel. Please quote Ref: ENA04715. To apply, please fax or send your CV to the above number or send it to the above address.

We are committed to equal opportunities.

NORTEL
NORTHERN TELECOM
A World of Networks

UK LEGAL COUNSEL

Data General is one of the leading open systems computer companies worldwide and one of the fastest growing UNIX vendors in Europe. Globally we have revenues in excess of \$1.3 billion and conduct business in more than 70 countries. In Europe alone we have over 50 sales and services offices. Our corporate focus is on enterprise-wide systems solutions. We provide governments and large blue chip companies with high availability systems to serve large numbers of users, handle high volumes of transactions and support extensive databases.

We now seek to recruit a UK Legal Counsel to be based at our European headquarters in Brentford, Middlesex. You will be responsible for all legal aspects of Data General's operations in the UK and will be part of the UK management team. On a day-to-day basis, you will deal with the negotiation of commercial contracts, handle intellectual property

Data General

matters, employment issues, litigation management, and property. You will report to the Assistant General Counsel (International), who is based in the US.

Candidates should be solicitors or barristers with approx 5 years' commercial experience. A background in or experience of IT is desirable. Experience of working for a US corporation would be useful. Language skills and a knowledge of the law in other jurisdictions would be an advantage as there may also be opportunities for you to be involved in other international operations. Above all, candidates should have an understanding of business requirements, good organisational and communication skills, a willingness to take personal responsibility and the ability to provide practical advice in a timely and efficient manner to all levels of management in a dynamic environment.

For further details, including salary and benefits, please contact Sonya Rayner (who is retained on an exclusive basis), or send her a copy of your CV

CHAMBERS
PROFESSIONAL RECRUITMENT

23 LONG LANE, LONDON EC1A 9HL. TELEPHONE: (0171) 606 8844 FAX: (0171) 600 1793

In-House • London/Tokyo

EMERGING MARKETS 1-3 yrs

Top investment bank. Varied emerging markets work. Banking/capital markets expertise gained in a City firm required. Excellent package. DERIVATIVES Various

Exciting openings at junior and more senior levels for high calibre derivatives lawyers. Great opportunities for career advancement.

INVESTMENT BANK NQ-2yrs Bright, City trained solicitor with banking or corporate exp'ce to join equities team at major int'l bank. Great first in-house move.

CAPITAL MARKETS 4-5 yrs Confident, pro-active and commercially minded lawyer to head capital markets team of investment bank. Great opportunity.

IP/EC Brussels Senior lawyer join trade body and provide broad IP, EC & competition advice. Strong communication skills and languages needed.

MEDIA/IT 2-3 yrs Dynamic CO, seeks City trained, outgoing commercial lawyer, ideally with a City, IT and EC work. An ideal first in-house move.

TRADE/COMMODITIES 6yrs-10yrs Global energy co. Senior lawyer to advise transport/trading divisions. Marine, risk management and commercial exp'ce ideal.

GLOBAL COMMERCIAL 3-6yrs World leading co seeks a bright commercial lawyer to young join team dealing with major international contracts and some IV's. Good team environment. European Travel.

For further information, please call Caroline Fish (London/Tokyo) or Bridget Burton (In-House) on 0171 430 1711, or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.

PROPERTY LITIGATION 1-4 yrs

Usually there is a large demand for junior property litigators and we currently have 5 superb positions in top quality City and West End firms. Candidates should have gained strong experience in a good London/Provincial firm and can expect excellent remuneration.

IP PARTNER DESIGNATE Immediate partnership in one of the most exciting IP/IT teams in the City for top calibre, entrepreneurial IP litigator ideally with some client following.

FILM FINANCE 2-4 yrs Superb opportunity for Banking lawyer wishing to specialise in Film financing and distribution work. Strong banking/securities background essential.

TOKYO Banking 3-4yrs Rare opportunity to undertake international banking work in one of the most exciting Cities in the World for one of the best firms in the City. Fantastic experience and package.

EU/COMPETITION NQ-4yrs Progressive commercial department with top calibre EU/Comp work offers fantastic opportunity to work in dynamic environment undertaking unusually broad workload.

PLANNING 1-3 yrs One of the major planning teams in the City has an urgent requirement for a top notch lawyer with private practice experience seeking a challenging workload.

For further information, please call Caroline Fish (London/Tokyo) or Bridget Burton (In-House) on 0171 430 1711, or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.

0171 430 1711

INTELLECTUAL PROP. 1-4yrs

An excellent opportunity has arisen for a talented lawyer to join the dynamic IP team of this friendly and well regarded firm. A broad range of hard and soft IP guarantees varied and interesting work.

EMPLOYMENT 2-4yrs Rare opportunity for high calibre lawyer to join this leading niche Employment firm where high profile clients ensure top quality work. Personality is as important as technical skills. Superb package offered.

PRIVATE CLIENT 1-4yrs Highly respected medium sized City firm seeks a bright and ambitious lawyer for its thriving private client department. Strong academics are vital and a City training is preferred.

CONSTRUCTION 1-6yrs Exciting new opportunities have arisen with top City firms to do contentious and non-contentious work both here and abroad.

INFO OFFICERS To £65K Full and part time roles for high calibre lawyers seeking to move away from fee earning and who specialise in the fields of litigation, corporate, litigation and IP/IT.

GG
GRAHAM GILL & YOUNG

Sprecher Grier

This niche Holborn practice with a high reputation for its insolvency and commercial litigation services requires an assistant solicitor for this department. The following vacancy is available:

Insolvency/Commercial Litigation. Newly qualified or up to 2 yrs PQE. Should have gained good experience in Articles with a commercial practice and the applicant should have some familiarity with the technical aspects of insolvency work with a good grounding in commercial litigation too.

Computer literacy an advantage. We offer excellent terms (including private medical insurance) and prospects with this firm are very good for the right applicant.

Apply in writing only, please to:

15 Grier Esq.
SPRECHER GRIER
HANOVER HOUSE
75/76 HIGH HOLBORN
LONDON WC1V 6LS

ABA LAW supports Residential and Commercial Property Solicitors with substantial 2 years contracts. Tel: 0171 236 4628.

CONVEYANCING COMMERCIAL/PROPERTY Solicitors and well managed practice seeks NQ-2 yrs to join team on M20, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 296th, 297th, 298th, 299th, 300th, 301st, 302nd, 303rd, 304th, 305th, 306th, 307th, 308th, 309th, 310th, 311st, 312th, 313th, 314th, 315th, 316th, 317th, 318th, 319th, 320th, 321st, 322nd, 323rd, 324th, 325th, 326th, 327th, 328th, 329th, 330th, 331st, 332nd, 333rd, 334th, 335th, 336th, 337th, 338th, 339th, 340th, 341st, 342nd, 343rd, 344th, 345th, 346th, 347th, 348th, 349th, 350th, 351st, 352nd, 353rd, 354th, 355th, 356th, 357th, 358th, 359th, 360th, 361st, 362nd, 363rd, 364th, 365th, 366th, 367th, 368th, 369th, 370th, 371st, 372nd, 373rd, 374th, 375th, 376th, 377th, 378th, 379th, 380th, 381st, 382nd, 383rd, 384th, 385th, 386th, 387th, 388th, 389th, 390th, 391st, 392nd, 393rd, 394th, 395th, 396th, 397th, 398th, 399th, 400th, 401st, 402nd, 403rd, 404th, 405th, 406th, 407th, 408th, 409th, 410th, 411st, 412th, 413th, 414th, 415th, 416th, 417th, 418th, 419th, 420th, 421st, 422nd, 423rd, 424th, 425th, 426th, 427th, 428th, 429th, 430th, 431st, 432nd, 433rd, 434th, 435th, 436th, 437th, 438th, 439th, 440th, 441st, 442nd, 443rd, 444th, 445th, 446th, 447th, 448th, 449th, 450th, 451st, 452nd, 453rd, 454th, 455th, 456th, 457th, 458th, 459th, 460th, 461st, 462nd, 463rd, 464th, 465th, 466th, 467th, 468th, 469th, 470th, 471st, 472nd, 473rd, 474th, 475th, 476th, 477th, 478th, 479th, 480th, 481st, 482nd, 483rd, 484th, 485th, 486th, 487th, 488th, 489th, 490th, 491st, 492nd, 493rd, 494th, 495th, 496th, 497th, 498th, 499th, 500th, 501st, 502nd, 503rd, 504th, 505th, 506th, 507th, 508th, 509th, 510th, 511st, 512th, 513th, 514th, 515th, 516th, 517th, 518th, 519th, 520th, 521st, 522nd, 523rd, 524th, 525th, 526th, 527th, 528th, 529th, 530th, 531st, 532nd, 533rd, 534th, 535th, 536th, 537th, 538th, 539th, 540th, 541st, 542nd, 543rd, 544th, 545th, 546th, 547th, 548th, 549th, 550th, 551st, 552nd, 553rd, 554th, 555th, 556th, 557th, 558th, 559th, 560th, 561st, 562nd, 563rd, 564th, 565th, 566th, 567th, 568th, 569th, 570th, 571st, 572nd, 573rd, 574th, 575th, 576th, 577th, 578th, 579th, 580th, 581st, 582nd, 583rd, 584th, 585th, 586th, 587th, 588th, 589th, 590th, 591st, 592nd, 593rd, 594th, 595th, 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th, 600th, 601st, 602nd, 603rd, 604th, 605th, 606th, 607th, 608th, 609th, 610th, 611st, 612th, 613th, 614th, 615th, 616th, 617th, 618th, 619th, 620th, 621st, 622nd, 623rd, 624th, 625th, 626th, 627th, 628th, 629th, 630th, 631st, 632nd, 633rd, 634th, 635th, 636th, 637th, 638th, 639th, 640th, 641st, 642nd, 643rd, 644th, 645th, 646th, 647th, 648th, 649th, 650th, 651st, 652nd, 653rd, 654th, 655th, 656th, 657th, 658th, 659th, 660th, 661st, 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 665th, 666th, 667th, 668th, 669th, 670th, 671st, 672nd, 673rd, 674th, 675th, 676th, 677th, 678th, 679th, 680th, 681st, 682nd, 683rd, 684th, 685th, 686th, 687th, 688th, 689th, 690th, 691st, 692nd, 693rd, 694th, 695th, 696th, 697th, 698th, 699th, 700th, 701st, 702nd, 703rd, 704th, 705th, 706th, 707th, 708th, 709th, 710th, 711st, 712th, 713th, 714th, 715th, 716th, 717th, 718th, 719th, 720th, 721st, 722nd, 723rd, 724th, 725th, 726th, 727th, 728th, 729th, 730th, 731st, 732nd, 733rd, 734th, 735th, 736th, 737th, 738th, 739th, 740th, 741st, 742nd, 743rd, 744th, 745th, 746th, 747th, 748th, 749th, 750th, 751st, 752nd, 753rd, 754th, 755th, 756th, 757th, 758th, 759th, 760th, 761st, 762nd, 763rd, 764th, 765th, 766th, 767th, 768th, 769th, 770th, 771st, 772nd, 773rd, 774th, 775th, 776th, 777th, 778th, 779th, 780th, 781st, 782nd, 783rd, 784th, 785th, 786th, 787th, 788th, 789th, 790th, 791st, 792nd, 793rd, 794th, 795th, 796th, 797th, 798th, 799th, 800th, 801st, 802nd, 803rd, 804th, 805th, 806th, 807th, 808th, 809th, 810th, 811st, 812th, 813th, 814th, 815th, 816th, 817th, 818th, 819th, 820th, 821st, 822nd, 823rd, 824th, 825th, 826th, 827th, 828th, 829th, 830th, 831st, 832nd, 833rd, 834th, 835th, 836th, 837th, 838th, 839th, 840th, 841st, 842nd, 843rd, 844th, 845th, 846th, 847th, 848th, 849th, 850th, 851st, 852nd, 853rd, 854th, 855th, 856th, 857th, 858th, 859th, 860th, 861st, 862nd, 863rd, 864th, 865th, 866th, 867th, 868th, 869th, 870th, 871st, 872nd, 873rd, 874th, 875th, 876th, 877th, 878th, 879th, 880th, 881st, 882nd, 883rd, 884th, 885th, 886th, 887th, 888th, 889th, 890th, 891st, 892nd, 893rd, 894th, 895th, 896th, 897th, 898th, 899th, 900th, 901st, 902nd, 903rd, 904th, 905th, 906th, 907th, 908th, 909th, 910th, 911st, 912th, 913th, 914th, 915th, 916th, 917th, 918th, 919th, 920th, 921st, 922nd, 923rd, 924th, 925th, 926th, 927th, 928th, 929th, 930th, 931st, 932nd, 933rd, 934th, 935th, 936th, 937th, 938th, 939th, 940th, 941st, 942nd, 943rd, 944th, 945th, 946th, 947th, 948th, 949th, 950th, 951st, 952nd, 953rd, 954th, 955th, 956th, 957th, 958th, 959th, 960th, 961st, 962nd, 963rd, 964th, 965th, 966th, 967th, 968th, 969th, 970th, 971st, 972nd, 973rd, 974th, 975th, 976th, 977th, 978th, 979th, 980th, 981st, 982nd, 983rd, 984th, 985th, 986th, 987th, 988th, 989th, 990th, 991st, 992nd, 993rd, 994th, 995th, 996th, 997th, 998th, 999th, 1000th, 1001st, 1002nd, 1003rd, 1004th, 1005th, 1006th, 1007th, 1008th, 1009th, 1010th, 1011st, 1012th, 1013th, 1014th, 1015th, 1016th, 1017th, 1018th, 1019th, 1020th, 1021st, 1022nd, 1023rd, 1024th, 1025th, 1026th, 1027th, 1028th, 1029th, 1030th, 1031st, 1032nd, 1033rd, 1034th, 1035th, 1036th, 1037th, 1038th, 1039th, 1040th, 1041st, 1042nd, 1043rd, 1044th, 1045th, 1046th, 1047th, 1048th, 1049th, 1050th, 1051st, 1052nd, 1053rd, 1054th, 1055th, 1056th, 1057th, 1058th, 1059th, 1060th, 1061st, 1062nd, 1063rd, 1064th, 1065th, 1066th, 1067th, 1068th, 1069th, 1070th, 1071st, 1072nd, 1073rd, 1074th, 1075th, 1076th, 1077th, 1078th, 1079th, 1080th, 1081st, 1082nd, 1083rd, 1084th, 1085th, 1086th, 1087th, 1088th, 1089th, 1090th, 1091st, 1092nd, 1093rd, 1094th, 1095th, 1096th, 1097th, 1098th, 1099th, 1100th, 1101st, 1102nd, 1103rd, 1104th, 1105th, 1106th, 1107th, 1108th, 1109th, 1110th, 1111st, 1112th, 1113th, 1114th, 1115th, 1116th, 1117th, 1118th, 1119th, 1120th, 1121st, 1122nd, 1123rd, 1124th, 1125th, 1126th, 1127th, 1128th, 1129th, 1130th, 1131st, 1132nd, 1133rd, 1134th, 1135th, 1136th, 1137th, 1138th, 1139th, 1140th, 1141st, 1142nd, 1143rd, 1144th, 1145th, 1146th, 1147th, 1148th, 1149th, 1150th, 1151st, 1152nd, 1153rd, 1154th, 1155th, 1156th, 1157th, 1158th, 1159th,

Alternatives must be sought to replace outdated levy system

that there is no alternative to the levy, then at least we will know and proceed accordingly. But it could be a limited and declining future ahead." Sheikh Hamdan, Brasher and many others would agree.



BY OUR RACING STAFF

like to emphasize that it was the whole proceeding that I would like to discuss with Michael Caulfield and Dr. Michael Turner on behalf of all jockeys in the future." In a statement issued via his agent, Robert Parsons, he addressed the "I apologise if in my injured state I caused offence, but I was unhappy with my initial treatment."

Other news from the Kempton meeting concerned Encore Un Peu. The former Martell Grand National winner, who finished fifth in the Favourite Post Chase, returned lame the ten-year-old, and after 14 lengths by the winner at Aintree in April, will not start this season's renewal on April 15.

7-2 Fabulous Moolah, 9-2 Sheraz, 5-1 Bakers Daughter, 5-1 Medicine, Honestly, 8-1

4.30 WALTER RALEIGH FILLES HANDICAP
(2,739 B) (6) (S)

1 2122 FORTISSEVEN TIMES 7 (C,D,G) 1 Jones 3-8-10 ~ N Cardale 5
2 2110 TACHYPARADA 12 (C,D,G) 2 Stothman 5-9-4 ~ M Murley (C) 5
3 2112 ALBERTA 12 (C,D,G) 3 Stothman 5-9-4 ~ D Volante 5
4 2103 MYSTIFY MYSTIFY 35 (M) 4 Jones 4-2-3 ~ S Somerville 8
5 2428 ALLSTAR 15 (M) 5 Knighton 4-8-3 ~ R Plimmet (F) 8
6 2428 ALLSTAR 15 (M) 6 Knighton 4-8-3 ~ R Plimmet (F) 8
6-4 Fugales Times, 6-1 Tachyparada, 5-2 Mystify Mystify, 5-1 others.

5.00 COOK LIMITED STAKES
(Div 1: \$2,101 1m 2f) (10)

1 0152 FABRIOUS DARTY 7 (C,D,G) M Saunders 7-8-1 ~ N Cardale 8
2 036 CAPTAIN MAY 7 (C,D,G) 1 Chattergoose 6-8-12, R Mullen (S) 8
3 0228 ARCADE 7 (C,D,G) 2 Hae 5-8-12 ~ Jo Holman (F) 7
4 0111 TACHYPARADA 7 (C,D,G) 3 Egan 6-8-12 ~ A Day (S) 3
5 2225 SHERAL 13 (G,M) 4 Tiers 5-8-12 ~ C Rafter 9
6 0228 ARCADE 7 (C,D,G) 5 Sweet 4-8-12 ~ S Somerville 8
7 0228 ARCADE 7 (C,D,G) 6 Sweet 4-8-12 ~ S Somerville 8
8 0228 ARCADE 7 (C,D,G) 7 Sweet 4-8-12 ~ S Somerville 8
9 0228 ARCADE 7 (C,D,G) 8 Sweet 4-8-12 ~ S Somerville 8
9-0-4 BAKERS DARTY 15 (C,D,G) 4-8-11 ~ A Clark, 10
9-0-4 BAKERS DARTY 15 (C,D,G) 4-8-11 ~ A Clark, 10

1 006 PERSIAN BUTTERFLY 20 (M) 1 Crane 5-8-9, R McPike 6
2 004 LULA PEREGO 15 (G,M) 2 M J Shorro 4-8-9 ~ S Webster 9
3 004 LULA PEREGO 15 (G,M) 3 M J Shorro 4-8-9 ~ S Webster 9

2-2 Fabulous Mares, 9-2 Shorro, 5-1 Bakers Darty, 6-1 Mediate, Honesty, 8-1
Lula Perogo, 15-1 others.

Dundee stopped on way to promised land

The Road to Damascus was blocked off at Cologne airport yesterday for Sean Dundee when, figuratively, he had one foot aboard the German FA plane for an international in the Middle East. But for injury, Dundee, a South African, would have made his debut for Germany against Israel in Tel Aviv — a most intriguing passport of convenience even by modern sporting standards.

The goalscorer, inevitably dubbed Crocodile, represents either a romantic story, or a cynical example of a sportsman abandoning his country for greater glory and profit.

He was born and raised in South Africa. He had a dream, and remarkable self-confidence, bordering on that which took Craig Johnston from Australia to Liverpool via Middlesbrough. Indeed, Dundee had written to English clubs, none of which responded.

Apparently, in adolescence, his bedroom wall was filled with photographs of Jürgen Klinsmann and Thomas Hässler, and Germany was more welcoming to his talents.

Without a drop of German blood, without a relative or a contact, he worked his passage from Ditzingen, a regional league side, to Stuttgart Kickers, then, two years ago, to the Bundesliga side, Karlsruhe, initially as an amateur.

With passes from Hässler, he quickly fulfilled himself. In his first season, "Crocodile" Dundee netted 16 goals. In his second, he is the league's leading scorer, with 14 goals at the halfway stage of the season.

On December 17, ten days after his 24th birthday, Dundee was officially declared a German citizen. Last week, Bernd Vogts selected him in the squad for Tel Aviv where, aside from a football match, the German players are to be used as ambassadors, visiting the Holocaust memorial Yad Vashem today.

The white South African with red hair, freckles and an earring, should have been among them. He wanted to travel even though he badly bruised his right calf against VfB Stuttgart on Saturday. Vogts wanted

ROB HUGHES



Overseas View

to take him for the experience, but Dr Hans-Wilhelm Müller-Wohlfahrt advised that the four-hour plane journey was anathema to a muscle injury.

So, forlornly, Dundee drove back to the Lower Rhine for treatment. Vogts told him: "Keep your head up, your health comes before everything. It's not the end of the world. You'll get your chance."

Meanwhile, taking that chance, will be Dariusz Woz, the diminutive playmaker from Bochum, a player born in Poland, capped by East Germany, and now ready to make his first appearance for the combined Germany side on Israeli soil.

It becomes ever more difficult to decide a man's birthright when sporting fortunes are to be made. Even Germany's politicians are divided on the Bonn parliament decision to rush Dundee through the "fast track" procedure that grants nationality quickly to foreigners as a matter of "public interest".

Were you or I to queue for a dozen years, we would not get a German passport — unless you are rather better than me at putting the ball in the net. If political refugees in fear for their lives knocked at Germany's border, they might, after lengthy interrogation, be granted a temporary compassionate stay.

Dundee bypassed the process because Germany covets his finishing touch. They wanted him in South Africa, too. Last year, before the African Cup of Nations opened in Johannesburg, Dundee's absence was lamented by his countrymen.

They had called him home, but he declined, just as in 1995, Dundee had given a lame excuse of injury for failing to make a South Africa debut, ironically against Germany.

South Africans, some of them, actually felt sorry for Dundee. They thought him a misguided young man, chasing the impossible notion, and missing out on the euphoria of the nation's cup. Dundee had heard that Vogts looked favourably upon his scoring consistency.

Indeed, he did. "The important thing for me is who is top of the scoring charts," Vogts said. "Dundee is dynamic, he is a great header of the ball, he is totally selfish. I hope he keeps his career nature, but all strikers are basically selfish."

Dundee still wishes to complete the dream of sharing goals with Klinsmann for the new nation. However, while he rests his calf, Oliver Bierhoff, whose goals won the European championship, is fit and scoring again while big Fredi Bobic, a rapacious scorer for VfB Stuttgart, needs to impress in the national team.

Then there is Heiko Herrlich, of the champions, Borussia Dortmund, and Ulf Kirsten, the former East German leading Bayer Leverkusen.

Temporarily off the scene, Dundee cannot now get another chance until the World Cup qualifying match against Albania in Tirana on April 2.

Meanwhile, in the real world, he stores up envy and enemies. Newspapers splash his love affairs on their front page, and on the back there are rumours that Bayern Munich plan to replace Klinsmann with the Crocodile Kid.

If and when things sour in his new existence, there may be no going back, for some South Africans regard him as a deserter.



Dundee celebrates a goal during his prolific career in Germany

Stockport aim to provide sound surface

By PETER BALL

STOCKPORT County's Coca-Cola Cup run to tomorrow's semi-final against Middlesbrough has had its cost. Stockport are spending some £12,000 relaying a third of the Edgeley Park playing area to make sure that the first leg goes ahead after being postponed last week.

The work started last Thursday, and will be completed in time for the cup tie tomorrow. Many second division teams playing a Premiership side might have been tempted to hope for a poor pitch, but that is not Stockport's way.

"We want a good pitch," David Jones, the impressive young Stockport manager, said yesterday. "We like to play football, and we think that is our best chance of beating Middlesbrough."

Having had to postpone this game from its original date, after a postponement of the fourth-round tie with West Ham United, and a replay at Southampton, the little Cheshire club are facing a serious fixture pile-up, which could hamper their main ambition, reaching the first division rather than Wembley.

They and Wrexham, whose FA Cup run has brought similar problems, contacted the Nationwide Football League seeking help, along with Middlesbrough, who are scheduled to play Northern Ireland's World Cup qualifying matches with Portugal and Ukraine will disrupt their Easter programme, with Lomas, Horlock, Whitley and Tommy Wright all likely to be in Bryan Hammett's squad.

While there is no Premiership programme on Easter Monday, and most of the Premiership fixtures originally planned for Easter Saturday have been played ahead of schedule, there is a full Nationwide League programme on both days. "Although we knew it was a World Cup week, we did not have specific dates when our fixtures were arranged," Chris Hull, a League spokesman, said yesterday.

The fact that both Northern Ireland and Scotland are playing on the Saturday and then again a few days later means we will lose the weekend as well as the following midweek. "It becomes an even more difficult balancing act for us, but we feel that there will be no real problem in fitting in all the games. There is no question of the Football League extending the season beyond the final scheduled weekend of May 3 and 4."

Manchester United are giving David May, their central defender, every chance of regaining full match fitness in time for the European Cup quarter-final first leg with FC Porto at Old Trafford next week. May, who made a brief appearance as a substitute at Chelsea on Saturday, will play in the reserves against Nottingham Forest tomorrow and in the first team against Coventry on Saturday, even if Roome Johnson has recovered from his leg injury.

Norwich, who play at Southend tonight, hope to have bolstered their leaky defence by signing Kevin Scott, from Tottenham Hotspur, for £250,000.

In the second division, Burnley go to Blackpool in the third of an injury crisis for a Lancashire derby still full of resonance. Burnley need to revive their faltering play-off hopes, but will have to do so without Weller, Smith and Gledhill of their regular midfield. "We've very short of options in the middle of the park," Adrian Heath, the Burnley manager, said.

Keller juggles divided loyalties across the Atlantic

Richard Hobson talks to a goalkeeper for whom success is not without its problems



Keller in demand

Kasey Keller is a man in a dilemma, a hostage to the success of club and country. His consistency in England has helped him to become the No 1 goalkeeper with the United States national team, but there is a drawback. His diary is swelling with appointments on both sides of the Atlantic and Keller is not sure where his priority lies.

He is passionate about Leicester City, who turn their attention towards the FA Cup tomorrow night, when they visit Chelsea in a fifth-round replay, and who still harbour hopes of reaching Wembley in the Coca-Cola Cup. Meanwhile, the United States have reached the last qualifying stage in their North and Central America region for the 1998 World Cup finals and face ten games this year

to determine whether they will feature in France. Unfortunately for Keller, those internationals do not coincide with similar midweek games in Europe.

"I am in one place, I always seem to be thinking about the other," Keller said. "I was in America the day before our game against Guatemala last year when I heard that Leicester had lost 2-0 to Derby and it was a huge distraction. It must have been the first time anybody has been so disappointed so close to his debut

in the biggest competition in the world."

Such concerns are felt in reverse, too. Last month, he was allowed to miss a four-country tournament in the United States to remain in Leicester. In so doing, he gave Brad Friedel, his closest rival, the opportunity to push his own claims for more important games.

Thus it was that Keller considered returning home last year for the first season of the new professional league. "In many ways, it would have been a retrograde step because the quality of football in England is much higher, but it would have solved the problem,"

he said. On this occasion, the matter was resolved for him when Major League Soccer, which contracts star players centrally before allocating them among its ten clubs, declined to meet Millwall's asking price of \$1.5 million. Leicester had no such qualms about paying the English equivalent of around £800,000 in the summer.

His reputation remains untainted by his commitments in England. "Football is growing back home and there is a bit of mystique about me because I am hardly there," he said. "Before Guatemala, I realised I had become the folk

hero of the football sub-culture. It gave me a certain aura, but it is not something I would try to cultivate. Such words reveal something of Keller's academic background. He studied sociology at the University of Portland in Oregon, and was close to completing his degree, which included a dissertation on African history, when he accepted an offer from Bruce Rioch, then the Millwall manager, who had spotted him on a coaching trip to the United States. Since then, Keller, 28, has taken correspondence courses.

Not that his knowledge of social science has been of much use in deciphering the intricacies of life in an English football dressing-room. "In class, you deal with what people are supposed to do; footballers usually seem to do the exact

opposite," he said. "If I say to somebody: 'You should not have done that, I get a look back as if to say: 'What are you on?'"

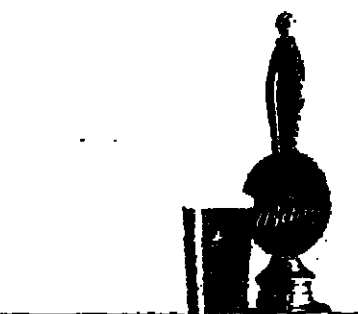
Keller was 14 when he stopped playing basketball competitively and enrolled at Portland because it was one of the few universities where soccer took priority. He said: "Most professional sportsmen back home come through the college system. A good sports facility can bring in big bucks for the university, so we were treated like professional sportsmen rather than students. There was a lot of media interest and the standing joke was that I was the most overpaid guy on local television after the Portland Trailblazers basketball team." Now the spotlight is swinging his way again.

Not that his knowledge of social science has been of much use in deciphering the intricacies of life in an English football dressing-room. "In class, you deal with what people are supposed to do; footballers usually seem to do the exact



Suitable for vegetarians.

Unsuitable for big girls' blouses.



BEST SELLING PREMIUM CASK ALE SINCE 1777

ATHLETICS

BRIMMINGHAM AAA indoor championship: Boys under-15 pentathlon: 1. Courtney (Oxford) 2. 7.78.00. 3. McGovern (Leamington) 2.00.00.

CLASCOVE: British veterans championship: Men: 50m: 6.5. 100m: 14.5. 200m: 32.5. 400m: 1.10. 800m: 3.10. 1500m: 6.10. 2000m: 10.00. 3000m: 16.00. 4000m: 22.00. 5000m: 30.00. 6000m: 38.00. 7000m: 45.00. 8000m: 52.00. 9000m: 59.00. 10000m: 1.00.00. 11000m: 1.07.00. 12000m: 1.14.00. 13000m: 1.21.00. 14000m: 1.28.00. 15000m: 1.35.00. 16000m: 1.42.00. 17000m: 1.49.00. 18000m: 1.56.00. 19000m: 2.03.00. 20000m: 2.10.00. 21000m: 2.17.00. 22000m: 2.24.00. 23000m: 2.31.00. 24000m: 2.38.00. 25000m: 2.45.00. 26000m: 2.52.00. 27000m: 2.59.00. 28000m: 3.06.00. 29000m: 3.13.00. 30000m: 3.20.00. 31000m: 3.27.00. 32000m: 3.34.00. 33000m: 3.41.00. 34000m: 3.48.00. 35000m: 3.55.00. 36000m: 4.02.00. 37000m: 4.09.00. 38000m: 4.16.00. 39000m: 4.23.00. 40000m: 4.30.00. 41000m: 4.37.00. 42000m: 4.44.00. 43000m: 4.51.00. 44000m: 4.58.00. 45000m: 5.05.00. 46000m: 5.12.00. 47000m: 5.19.00. 48000m: 5.26.00. 49000m: 5.33.00. 50000m: 5.40.00. 51000m: 5.47.00. 52000m: 5.54.00. 53000m: 6.01.00. 54000m: 6.08.00. 55000m: 6.15.00. 56000m: 6.22.00. 57000m: 6.29.00. 58000m: 6.36.00. 59000m: 6.43.00. 60000m: 6.50.00. 61000m: 6.57.00. 62000m: 7.04.00. 63000m: 7.11.00. 64000m: 7.18.00. 65000m: 7.25.00. 66000m: 7.32.00. 67000m: 7.39.00. 68000m: 7.46.00. 69000m: 7.53.00. 70000m: 8.00.00. 71000m: 8.07.00. 72000m: 8.14.00. 73000m: 8.21.00. 74000m: 8.28.00. 75000m: 8.35.00. 76000m: 8.42.00. 77000m: 8.49.00. 78000m: 8.56.00. 79000m: 9.03.00. 80000m: 9.10.00. 81000m: 9.17.00. 82000m: 9.24.00. 83000m: 9.31.00. 84000m: 9.38.00. 85000m: 9.45.00. 86000m: 9.52.00. 87000m: 9.59.00. 88000m: 10.06.00. 89000m: 10.13.00. 90000m: 10.20.00. 91000m: 10.27.00. 92000m: 10.34.00. 93000m: 10.41.00. 94000m: 10.48.00. 95000m: 10.55.00. 96000m: 11.02.00. 97000m: 11.09.00. 98000m: 11.16.00. 99000m: 11.23.00. 100000m: 11.30.00. 101000m: 11.37.00. 102000m: 11.44.00. 103000m: 11.51.00. 104000m: 11.58.00. 105000m: 12.05.00. 106000m: 12.12.00. 107000m: 12.19.00. 108000m: 12.26.00. 109000m: 12.33.00. 110000m: 12.40.00. 111000m: 12.47.00. 112000m: 12.54.00. 113000m: 13.01.00. 114000m: 13.08.00. 115000m: 13.15.00. 116000m: 13.22.00. 117000m: 13.29.00. 118000m: 13.36.00. 119000m: 13.43.00. 120000m: 13.50.00. 121000m: 13.57.00. 122000m: 14.04.00. 123000m: 14.11.00. 124000m: 14.18.00. 125000m: 14.25.00. 126000m: 14.32.00. 127000m: 14.39.00. 128000m: 14.46.00. 129000m: 14.53.00. 130000m: 15.00.00. 131000m: 15.07.00. 132000m: 15.14.00. 133000m: 15.21.00. 134000m: 15.28.00. 135000m: 15.35.00. 136000m: 15.42.00. 137000m: 15.49.00. 138000m: 15.56.00. 139000m: 16.03.00. 140000m: 16.10.00. 141000m: 16.17.00. 142000m: 16.24.00. 143000m: 16.31.00. 144000m: 16.38.00. 145000m: 16.45.00. 146000m: 16.52.00. 147000m: 16.59.00. 148000m: 17.06.00. 149000m: 17.13.00. 150000m: 17.20.00. 151000m: 17.27.00. 152000m: 17.34.00. 153000m: 17.41.00. 154000m: 17.48.00. 155000m: 17.55.00. 156000m: 18.02.00. 157000m: 18.09.00. 158000m: 18.16.00. 159000m: 18.23.00. 160000m: 18.30.00. 161000m: 18.37.00. 162000m: 18.44.00. 163000m: 18.51.00. 164000m: 18.58.00. 165000m: 19.05.00. 166000m: 19.12.00. 167000m: 19.19.00. 168000m: 19.26.00. 169000m: 19.33.00. 170000m: 19.40.00. 171000m: 19.47.00. 172000m: 19.54.00. 173000m: 20.01.00. 174000m: 20.08.00. 175000m: 20.15.00. 176000m: 20.22.00. 177000m: 20.29.00. 178000m: 20.36.00. 179000m: 20.43.00. 180000m: 20.50.00. 181000m: 20.57.00. 182000m: 21.04.00. 183000m: 21.11.00. 184000m: 21.18.00. 185000m: 21.25.00. 186000m: 21.32.00. 187000m: 21.39.00. 188000m: 21.46.00. 189000m: 21.53.00. 190000m: 22.00.00. 191000m: 22.07.00. 192000m: 22.14.00. 193000m: 22.21.00. 194000m: 22.28.00. 195000m: 22.35.00. 196000m: 22.42.00. 197000m: 22.49.00. 198000m: 22.56.00. 199000m: 23.03.00. 200000m: 23.10.00. 201000m: 23.17.00. 202000m: 23.24.00. 203000m: 23.31.00. 204000m: 23.38.00. 205000m: 23.45.00. 206000m: 23.52.00. 207000m: 23.59.00. 208000m: 24.06.00. 209000m: 24.13.00. 210000m: 24.20.00. 211000m: 24.27.00. 212000m: 24.34.00. 213000m: 24.41.00. 214000m: 24.48.00. 215000m: 24.55.00. 216000m: 25.02.00. 217000m: 25.09.00. 218000m: 25.16.00. 219000m: 25.23.00. 220000m: 25.30.00. 221000m: 25.37.00. 222000m: 25.44.00. 223000m: 25.51.00. 224000m: 25.58.00. 225000m: 26.05.00. 226000m: 26.12.00. 227000m: 26.19.00. 228000m: 26.26.00. 229000m: 26.33.00. 230000m: 26.40.00. 231000m: 26.47.00. 232000m: 26.54.00. 233000m: 27.01.00. 234000m: 27.08.00. 235000m: 27.15.00. 236000m: 27.22.00. 237000m: 27.29.00. 238000m: 27.36.00. 239000m: 27.43.00. 240000m: 27.50.00. 241000m: 27.57.00. 242000m: 28.04.00. 243000m: 28.11.00. 244000m: 28.18.00. 245000m: 28.25.00. 246000m: 28.32.00. 247000m: 28.39.00. 248000m: 28.46.00. 249000m: 28.53.00. 250000m: 29.00.00. 251000m: 29.07.00. 252000m: 29.14.00. 253000m: 29.21.00. 254000m: 29.28.00. 255000m: 29.35.00. 256000m: 29.42.00. 257000m: 29.49.00. 258000m: 29.56.00. 259000m: 30.03.00. 260000m: 30.10.00. 261000m: 30.17.00. 262000m: 30.24.00. 263000m: 30.31.00. 264000m: 30.38.00. 265000m: 30.45.00. 266000m: 30.52.00. 267000m: 30.59.00. 268000m: 31.06.00. 269000m: 31.13.00. 270000m: 31.20.00. 271000m: 31.27.00. 272000m: 31.34.00. 273000m: 31.41.00. 274000m: 31.48.00. 275000m: 31.55.00. 276000m: 32.02.00. 277000m: 32.09.00. 278000m: 32.16.00. 279000m: 32.23.00. 280000m: 32.30.00. 281000m: 32.37.00. 282000m: 32.44.00. 283000m: 32.51.00. 284000m: 32.58.00. 285000m: 33.05.00. 286000m: 33.12.00. 287000m: 33.19.00. 288000m: 33.26.00. 289000m: 33.33.00. 290000m: 33.40.00. 291000m: 33.47.00. 292000m: 33.54.00. 293000m: 34.01.00. 294000m: 34.08.00. 295000m: 34.15.00. 296000m: 34.22.00. 297000m: 34.29.00. 298000m: 34.36.00. 299000m: 34.43.00. 300000m: 34.50.00. 301000m: 34.57.00. 302000m: 35.04.00. 303000m: 35.11.00. 304000m: 35.18.00. 305000m: 35.25.00. 306000m: 35.32.00. 307000m: 35.39.00. 308000m: 35.46.00. 309000m: 35.53.00. 310000m: 36.00.00. 311000m: 36.07.00. 312000m: 36.14.00. 313000m: 36.21.00. 314000m: 36.28.00. 315000m: 36.35.00. 316000m: 36.42.00. 317000m: 36.49.00. 318000m: 36.56.00. 319000m: 37.03.00. 320000m: 37.10.00. 321000m: 37.17.00. 322000m: 37.24.00. 323000m: 37.31.00. 324000m: 37.38.00. 325000m: 37.45.00. 326000m: 37.52.00. 327000m: 37.59.00. 328000m: 38.06.00. 329000m: 38.13.00. 330000m: 38.20.00. 331000m: 38.27.00. 332000m: 38.34.00. 333000m: 38.41.00. 334000m: 38.48.00. 335000m: 38.55.00. 336000m: 39.02.00. 337000m: 39.09.00. 338000m: 39.16.00. 339000m: 39.23.00. 340000m: 39.30.00. 341000m: 39.37.00. 342000m: 39.44.00. 343000m: 39.51.00. 344000m: 39.58.00. 345000m: 40.05.00. 346000m: 40.12.00. 347000m: 40.19.00. 348000m: 40.26.00. 349000m: 40.33.00. 350000m: 40.40.00. 351000m: 40.47.00. 352000m: 40.54.00. 353000m: 41.01.00. 354000m: 41.08.00. 355000m: 41.15.00. 356000m: 41.22.00. 357000m: 41.29.00. 358000m: 41.36.00. 359000m: 41.43.00. 360000m: 41.50.00. 361000m: 41.57.00. 362000m: 42.04.00. 363000m: 42.11.00. 364000m: 42.18.00. 365000m: 42.25.00. 366000m: 42.32.00. 367000m: 42.39.00. 368000m: 42.46.00. 369000m: 42.53.00. 370000m: 43.00.00. 371000m: 43.07.00. 372000m: 43.14.00. 373000m: 43.21.00. 374000m: 43.28.00. 375000m: 43.35.00. 376000m: 43.42.00. 377000m: 43.49.00. 378000m: 43.56.00. 379000m: 44.03.00. 380000m: 44.10.00. 381000m: 44.17.00. 382000m: 44.24.00. 383000m: 44.31.00. 384000m: 44.38.00. 385000m: 44.45.00. 386000m: 44.52.00. 387000m: 44.59.00. 388000m: 45.06.00. 3890

Mijnders looking after Oxford's interest

David Miller considers the latest cosmopolitan effort by the Dark Blues to reverse their stubborn losing sequence in the University Boat Race.

Rowing in Great Britain has an open-minded, international outlook on coaching that is a lesson to other sports. Bob Janusek, from Czechoslovakia, radically expanded horizons 20 years ago, while Jürgen Grobler, from the former East Germany, has been the brains behind the success of Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent in, not least, two Olympic Games. Now Oxford have Rene Mijnders, for ten years the head coach and technical director to the Holland national team.

Realising, after a fourth consecutive defeat, last year, the extent of the technical gulf between the historic Boat Race rivals, Dan Topolski, for so long the Oxford guru, asked Mijnders if he would help Oxford to stop the rot. The Holland eight had just won the gold medal at the Olympics in Atlanta and Mijnders was anxious for fresh fields. Financially unambitious, he was seeking new experience rather than commercial reward.

"The Boat Race has a special magic you can find nowhere else in the world," Mijnders said yesterday at the announcement of the crews for an event, sponsored by Beefeater, that continues to hold its place among the top ten of sports live television audiences: last year seven million. "It

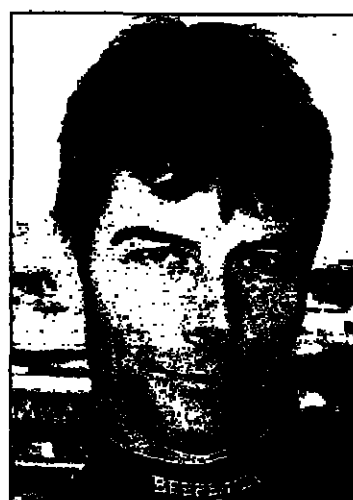
is the most famous of races, even though foreigners know little of the detail and background."

Of regular events, only the Grand National, the men's singles final at Wimbledon, the FA Cup Final and one or two matches of the five nations' championship have regularly surpassed the Boat Race audience, so sustaining present figures at the time of declining audiences is testimony to the continuing appeal of this idiosyncratic British occasion.

As the new head coach at Oxford, Mijnders is hard at work with a crew of formidable potential, though not without that slight undercurrent of in-house controversy that often characterises this race.

The massive 15st Roberto Blanda, from the Italy Olympic eight, and Luka Grubor, of Croatia, were able to produce academic qualifications that, having fallen short of the rigours of Cambridge tutorial standards, managed to satisfy those at the other place. Oxford's pursuit of former eminence, created by Topolski, is indeed earnest.

"It was such a deep trough [we



Mijnders head coach

were in]," Topolski said. "Rene is brilliant on technique, so I went and got him. He wanted other things. Already he's produced an easy flexibility in the crew, with confidence and blend."

Mijnders, a world championship

contender in coxed fours in the mid-80s, has the relaxed mood of famous Dutch football coaches, such as Rinus Michels and Leo Beenhakker.

"What I especially like is the mixture in the group, high class rowers and younger, promising juniors," Mijnders said. "It's a very healthy environment for improvement and the standard is higher than I expected. Their boat speed is close to the Dutch eight, though I don't think they're Olympic champions! They are young, which means they are eager and quick to listen and learn."

Andrew Lindsay, 20, a bronze medal-winner in British junior eights three years ago, who has been working in Africa for a year before arriving at Brasenose, is fit in yet is dwarfed by Blanda, Grubor and James Roycroft, all of whom stand 6ft 6in. Height and reach, if coordinated, have no disadvantages over limit in rowing, because less compression of trunk and legs is then required on the sliding seat to achieve length of stroke.

"The less you are compressed, the more explosive your stroke can be,"

Topolski said. This will be one of the biggest crews ever.

Mijnders agrees, but makes the contrasting point that big men tend to be lazy, relying on their size, and that the shorter oarsman is accustomed to having to be more competitive. The combination of Mijnders's technique and Topolski's unrivalled tideway knowhow could, indeed, be formidable.

"If [Oxford's acquisitions] will make it very tough for us," Robin Williams, the Cambridge coach, said. "They've got the edge in power... but only an edge. Having Tim Foster [regarded as one of the best coxswains in Britain] is really valuable to them. We know what we have to do."

Mijnders said that his focus is on efficiency in technique rather than sheer strength. It is a view that those who appoint national coaches in football, cricket and tennis would do well to heed.

Beefeater, whose enthusiasm as sponsor remains undiminished, is intending to turn the day into something of a carnival, broadening the appeal of a day out by the river. "We want to attract a younger element and more tourists for the occasion," a spokesman said. For the first time, details of the race will be available on the Internet.

A great aunt from Hell

Interval: News from North Britain, Radio 3, 8.35pm

This 20-minute short story slot during the evening chamber music concert is finding some excellent stories. Tonight's is *Willmen's Metaphor* by the Glasgow journalist Beatrice Colman and concerns a young boy, Robert, who is sent to stay with his Great Aunt Willmen's eccentric story begins with Willmen's and the reluctant boy carrying out an armed robbery ("she whipped an ancient hunting rifle from the depths of her rack of trunks"). Willmen's is also given to striding naked through the garden of her mansion or shouting abuse at Noel Edmonds on television: "You look like a hammer with a lobotomy."

Novel America: *Tales of the City*, Radio 4, 10.00am (FM)

The prospect of a series in which someone "encounters America for the first time" can produce a groan even in polite company, for surely we have been this way before. But of course the success of these projects depends upon who is doing the encountering and how. Martin Wainwright is the travelling reporter and he finds fresh insights by using as a platform four American novels. The series is in effect a search for real examples of fictional characters and the peg is about enough to support a goodly cluster of insights. This morning's opener has Wainwright in San Francisco, the setting for Armistead Maupin's novels featuring Mary Ann Singleton. Peter Barnard

GOLF: PRECISION ON GREENS THE KEY TO RARE SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE OF PRESIDENT'S PUTTER

Rotheroe's accuracy swells Rye's elite ranks

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE ferries, their hatches well battened down, ploughed through the choppy Channel, and in Rye harbour the fishermen declined to put to sea and face winds of 75mph. On shore, meanwhile, the President's Putter ended at Rye when Charlie Rotheroe successfully defended his title, beating Simon Ellis 3 and 2.

Rotheroe's was not a unique achievement because four men had done it before him, but it was certainly an unusu-

al as Rotheroe's successful defence was the absence of dogs. Usually, the final attracts a collection of retrievers and black labradors who give every impression of taking their elderly owners for a gentle afternoon walk. Perhaps their absence was because the final was held on a Monday, not a Sunday.

Ellis plays off one, Rotheroe off plus one. Ellis has a grip that purists might cavil at, with his right index finger down the shaft, while Rotheroe appears effortlessly classical, a neat and tidy swinger and dresser and a powerful hitter. It was a pleasure to watch two men playing so quickly and well on a day when the south wind rushed in at 40mph even on land.

Ellis, 32, has a reputation for being an uneasy putter, a reflection on him rather than the quality of Rye's excellent greens. On the 7th, he had a chance to go two up, but made a nervous stab there and on the 8th. To make matters worse, Rotheroe putted beautifully, with a backswing so low that his club-head rarely seemed to be off the ground. Rotheroe's deadly putting contributed to his defeat of Andy Woolnough in the morning semi-final and underpinned his victory over Ellis.



Rotheroe, who became only the fifth player to retain his title, watches as Ellis puts on the 10th yesterday

Ellis could have won the 10th, and should have won the 11th when Rotheroe hit a quick hook that whizzed between the legs of one spectator and hit another in the back. Ellis missed another short putt on the 13th, and now Rotheroe was two up.

Perhaps Ellis was a little unlucky on the 15th, when Rotheroe's seven-iron pitch and run from 50 yards crashed into the flagstick. This was his third stroke on the hole and Ellis's mistake thereafter was to chip poorly and putt poorly — again.

The end was nigh. On the 16th, Ellis hit a fine second shot to the back of the green and then watched in horror as his first putt stopped 2½ feet or so from the flag. This was precisely what he did not want. He had missed so many of them and, sure enough, this

putt caught the back of the hole and kicked away. Ellis proved one of golf's oldest maxims: that you can get away with crooked driving and can hit poor second shots, but if you cannot hole putts then you are making life very difficult for yourself.

SNOOKER: BRITON BOWS OUT WITH BAD GRACE IN FIRST-ROUND SURRENDER

Petulant O'Sullivan hits pique form

FROM PHIL YATES IN VALETTA

THE petulance that periodically resurfaces in the psyche of Ronnie O'Sullivan cost him a place in the Malta Open here in Malta yesterday. O'Sullivan was beaten 5-1 by Chris Small in the first round of the world-ranking tournament.

Trailing 4-1, O'Sullivan displayed a total disregard for his position as one of the game's leading lights by all but shoul-

dering arms. By indiscriminately powering the balls around the table, and attempting outlandish pots, he also lost the respect of many among the sizeable crowd.

"He should have at least put up a show for them. It is obvious they came to see Ronnie, not me," Small, a Scot with a methodical approach, said. "These antics happened when I was 4-1 up so he should have given me a bit of respect as well."

O'Sullivan, who showed a

similar attitude when losing in a number of first-round matches last season, has benefited from a much greater degree of commitment this campaign, and as a consequence, has captured the Asian Classic and German Open titles.

As no player has prevailed at all four overseas ranking events in the same season, O'Sullivan should have been highly motivated to complete the third leg of a potential grand slam. Instead he offered only token resistance. "I am playing terribly and I couldn't wait to get out of there," O'Sullivan said. "I hate the game — I don't want to play any more."

The natural ability of O'Sullivan, who once said that he was contemplating retirement after a quarter-final defeat by Ken Doherty in the 1994 United Kingdom Championship, is matched only by his unpredictability. One day he is at peace with the world, the next he believes it to be against him.

Small, responsible for the elimination of Steve Davis from the second round of the International Open in Aberdeen last week, recovered from the loss of the first frame with runs of 45, 79 and 44 as he moved 4-1 ahead before O'Sullivan's ball-thrashing shattered his opponent's concentration.

"I didn't know what was going on," Small, who made a series of mistakes before winning the sixth frame on the

pink, said. "I found it difficult to deal with." Small goes forward to meet his compatriot, Euan Henderson, or James Wattana, of Thailand. O'Sullivan flew home.

Darren Morgan, who has often been accused of trying too hard, ended a depressing sequence of five consecutive defeats by beating Anthony Hamilton 5-3. Morgan, the No 9 seed, who compiled breaks of 65, 64 and 53, will now meet Alan McManus or Darren Clarke in the last 16.



O'Sullivan: yielded

Steve Davis, who earlier in the month ended two years without a title by triumphing at the Benson and Hedges Masters, still found himself the victim of a totally unexpected 5-0 first-round whitewash against Stephen Lee, the world No 31 from Trowbridge — even though the former world champion's desire to win was obvious.

ICE HOCKEY

Storm breeze into play-offs in style

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MANCHESTER Storm have not enjoyed unalloyed success during their first season at the top level of the British game. They did, however, complete their Superleague programme on a high note at the Nynex Arena on Sunday in front of a British record crowd of 17,245 with a 6-2 victory over Sheffield Steelers.

After Ron Shudra had given the visitors the lead in the fourth minute, Stephen Cooper and Brad Turner struck back for Manchester, but a goal for Sheffield by Frank Kovacs late in the first period saw the teams go in for the first interval with the score tied at 2-2. Thirteen seconds after the break, Mike Morin put Manchester ahead again and goals by Nick Peole, Morin and Jeff Lindsay in the third period completed a memorable victory that will put the Storm in good heart for the play-offs, which begin later this week.

Ayr Scottish Eagles also appear to be running into form at the right time, having followed their away victory over Nottingham Panthers with their biggest win of the season, 10-2 at home to Basingstoke Bison, a result which confirms Bison in bottom place. In front of a more modest full house of 2,733, Ayr skated to a 4-0 lead in the first

16 minutes and kept up the pressure throughout, raining a total of 59 shots on Lloyd Clifford in the visitors' goal. Scott Young and Markus Berwanger each scored twice for Ayr.

Bracknell Bees, away to Newcastle Cobras, had shocked Cardiff Devils, the

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	42	30	3	9	1205	130	64
Sheffield	42	27	4	11	1168	127	60
Ayr	42	21	6	15	1071	157	48
Nottingham	42	21	12	9	1160	147	45
Newcastle	42	17	2	23	1150	172	41
Bracknell	42	15	2	25	1182	202	33
Manchester	42	14	3	25	1142	191	32
Basingstoke	42	11	3	28	1152	202	28

CL column indicates games lost in overtime. Teams are awarded one point for each loss

new champions, on Saturday night, took full advantage of penalties to their opponents, scoring five power-play goals in their 8-4 victory. Bracknell's main scorers were Dale Junkin with two goals and two assists and Shane McCosk, who contributed four assists.

The eight Superleague teams now divide into two groups of four for the championship play-offs, the top two in each group qualifying for the semi-finals at the Nynex Arena at the end of March.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 42

ILLUK

(c) The name used in Sri Lanka (Ceylon) for a coarse grass, *Imperata cylindrica*. The Sinhalese word. "The grass of Talawa is usually long and coarse, very different from the average pataz grass. The best known species are *mahina* and *illuk*."

MOOTAH

(b) Or *mooter*, marijuana. US slang, origin unknown. "All the time he was in the asylum he kept waiting for a big train to pull in with a cartload of *mooto* just for him."

KARABINER

(c) A coupling device consisting of a metal oval or D-shaped link with a gate protected against accidental opening. A mountaineering gadget. A shortened form of the German *karabiner-haken* a sping-hook. Chris Bonington, 1973: "A jerk — you drop three inches. But you're alive! The knot in the sling attached to the karabiner in your waist harness has jammed on the gate of the karabiner, and had then freed itself, letting you drop those few inches."

MUSEAU

(a) A person's face. From the French for the muzzle or snout of an animal. A favourite word of D. H. Lawrence. Eg in *St Mawr*, 1925: "She, with her odd little museau, not exactly pretty, but very attractive."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Nxb2 and if 2 Kxb2 Rb6+ or 2 Qxb2 Rb6 winning the white queen in both cases.

RADIO 4

- 5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW)
- 6.00am News 6.10am Farringham
- Today 6.25am Prayer for the Day
- 6.30am Today, includes Thought for the Day 6.40am Yesterday in Parliament
- 9.00am News 9.05am Coll Nick Ross
- 10.00am News 10.05am Novel America (FM)
- 10.00am Daily Service (LW)
- 10.15am This Day (LW)
- 10.30am Women's Hour, with Jenni Murray
- 11.30am Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts
- 12.00pm News and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch
- 12.25pm Booked! Ian McEwan is joined by John Hargley, Mark Thomas, Miles Kingston and Dile Kassar for the unusual look at literature 12.55pm Weather
- 1.00pm The World at One, with Nick Clarke
- 1.40pm The Archers (1.55pm Shipping Forecast)
- 2.00pm News, Facts, Feasts and Festivals: Farnham
- 2.30pm But I Know What I Like. The pianist David Owen Norris talks to and accompanies the opera singer Felicity Lott in some of her favourite pieces of music (30)
- 3.00pm The Afternoon Shift, with Doreen Green
- 4.00pm News 4.05pm Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan sees a new play by the Irish playwright Ciaran McKeown about a theatre critic who falls in love with an actress
- 4.45pm Short Story: Two Presents and a Billy Goat, by Alan Bala, Read by Gerard McSorley
- 5.00pm 5.50pm Shipping Forecast 5.55pm Weather
- 6.00pm Six O'Clock News
- 6.30pm Sources of One's Own, by Ivan Shakespeare. The comedy series that parodies the life and times of the Elizabethan dramatist, with Neil Ashdown and Matthew Hall (1)
- 7.00pm News 7.05pm The Archers
- 7.20pm File on Four, with Julian O'Halloran. An important issue of the week
- 8.00pm Science Now, with Peter Dinkley. A roundup of scientific news (1)
- 8.30pm The Roth Lectures. The American Professor Patricia J. Williams discusses the role of race and ethnicity in the first of this year's five lectures
- 9.00pm In Touch. Peter White with news for visually impaired people
- 9.30pm Kaleidoscope (1) 9.55pm Weather
- 10.00pm The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
- 10.45pm Book at Bedtime: The Great Railway Bazaar, by Paul Theroux, read by William Hurt (210) (1)
- 11.00pm Midweek, with Vincent Hanna (1)
- 11.30pm Word of Mouth (FM). Russell Davies explores words and the way we speak. This week he looks at names and the dilemma of naming children (26) (1)
- 11.30pm Today in Parliament (LW)
- 12.00pm News 12.27pm approx Weather
- 12.30pm The Late Book: I Am Still the Greatest, by Johnny Angelo, by Nick Cohn, Read by John Gurnea (20)
- 12.45pm Shipping Forecast 1.00am As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.9-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 158-189 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8. MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. FM 103.5, 105.5. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dean, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Sedgill, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManus.

Who was that moon-booted ice tucker man?

The neurotic reaction is unavoidable. A series called *Ray Mears' World of Survival* (BBC2) Up in the frozen shiver of anxiety through the body. Who is Ray Mears? Should I know who he is? Does everybody except me know who he is? He was in *Tracks*, comes the answer. "He is a survival expert. He can skin rabbits and stuff like that." It's just so worrying when people get their names in titles and they're not Alec Guinness or Jeremy Clarkson. Calling this series *Ray Mears' World of Survival* is a bit of a challenge; it's the equivalent of a first novel appearing straight on the "bestseller" shelf in a bookshop, so that the consumer is caught on the back foot. "How on earth," one asks, rubbing one's head, "did this famed Ray Mears pass me by?"

Actually, you wouldn't want to miss this series. It fills the gap left by *Desert Island Discs* ever since

Soe Lawley stopped even feigning interest in the question "could you build a shelter?" Up in the frozen Arctic for the first instalment, Mears joined various Inuits for igloo-construction lessons; he also watched them hunt, fish, catch seals, and make fluffy bonnets from the fur of caribou. The igloo-building revealed an unexpected drawback for people of a sensitive disposition: ice blocks make the same sound as polystyrene — squeak, creak, squeak. This is bad news for any Arctic dweller whose nerve-ends revolt at the sound of fingernail on blackboard. "No, I'll be all right," they call from the dog sled (fatally). "I've got a blanket here somewhere!"

The bad news for Mears himself was that, encased head to toe in his caribou ensemble, he was still as unknown by the end of the programme as at the beginning. He was just a big bloke in moon boots, with snow on his moustache

and a cool head in emergencies. But I liked him, especially when he explained that survival depended on looking into the wilderness and not just at it. Incidentally, the way to extract drinking water from an Arctic landscape turned out to be quite complicated: lighting a little fire under special glacial ice, then filtering it through a descending series of pools. The natural instinct just to pack snow in your mouth and suck like crazy was so stupid, apparently, it didn't even rate a mention.

At midnight on Channel 4, a discussion programme called *For the Love of...* considered the startling proposition (first put forward in a movie called *Capricorn One*, surely) that the *Nasa Moon landings* in 1969 were faked up in telly studios. Six earnest people — a loose affiliation, at a guess — explained their suspicions of conspiracy to a

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

languid, mouse-haired young journalist called Jon Ronson, who lounged in an armchair and occasionally lit cigarettes. Ronson was so laid-back that at first the show threatened to be like a classic paranoid psychiatrist scenario, with the guests saying "Nobody listens to us!" and Ronson rubbing his eyes and saying "Huh?" But it turned out to be a fascinating hour of telly. Ronson

allowed his guests to speak, and they warmed up. They showed the famous Moon-surface photos of the astronauts and explained the impossible directional lighting, unobtainable on the Moon. Given enough rope, of course, all conspiracy theorists hang themselves, by claiming that the Government is sending messages to ET through *Noel's House Party* — and that if you count the spots on Mister Blobby, they spell "Xmas. John Lennon, let me out." Well, so it proved on *For the Love of...* But the photo evidence was still a valid puzzle. As Ronson put it: "This is all very persuasive, yet at the same time... difficult to take."

It's sad to think that rational thought is not natural to human beings; it has to be instilled by training (and generally isn't). Hearing these people argue that the script of *Independence Day* contains "messages" makes you wonder whether at least *The*

X-Files should be banned temporarily, to give the mind-trainers a rare clear run. Perhaps the most persuasive moment of the whole hour was when a guest defended his integrity by concluding "After all, we're not being paid for appearing here tonight." Well, that proves something doesn't it?

When I was a child, I seemed always to be writing the same 11-plus composition: a day in the life of a penny. It was a rotten thing to do to a kid. The penny would start off in someone's pocket and then fall down a drain, then pay for a broken biscuit. You see the problem? Whatever you did with this damn brown coin, you could never give its destiny any kind of shape. Evidently Norman Hull had a similar education, because for his *Cutting Edge* last night (Channel 4), he chose a year in the life of a

Derby City General Hospital bed — an idea with precisely the same potential for disappointment as the old one-derby. But he made a rather beautiful film, with delicately sketched incidental characters. But, I don't know, that damn metal bed never came alive, somehow. Not even when its castors were replaced.

I assume the repeated reference to parliamentary debate was significant (hell, on the wards showed NHS wrangles in the House of Commons). But the political agenda of this film was no subtle for me. It seemed to be showing a lot of patients well cared for, in a pleasant environment, and getting better. Inconsequential was the word for it. But meanwhile a long, bloody gall bladder was hooked out of someone's body in precisely the same way that an infant hooks a seal through the ice. A spooky coincidence, eh? Or was it some sort of... message?

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (96729)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (94187)
- 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (940419)
- 9.20 Style Challenge (1134458)
- 9.45 Kilroy (942922)
- 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (39187)
- 11.00 News (T) and weather (978125)
- 11.05 The Really Useful Show (3042274)
- 11.35 Change That (565303)
- 12.00 News (T) (970651)
- 12.05pm The Alphabet Game (563019)
- 12.30 Going for a Song (794754)
- 12.55 The Weather Show (548180)
- 1.00 One O'Clock News (T) and weather (97274)
- 1.30 Regional News (969853)
- 1.40 Newsnight (T) (2057274)
- 2.05 Snowy River (982854)
- 2.50 As Time Goes By (T) (547880)
- 3.20 Noble Causes (106037)
- 3.30 Playdays (1366584) 3.50 Casper (2941125) 3.55 Hubbub (718172) 4.10 The Phil Spector Story (9460038) 4.35 The Mask (995462)
- 5.00 Newsround (T) (774800)
- 5.10 Grange Hill (1101274)
- 5.35 Newsnight (T) (136903)
- 6.00 Six O'Clock News (T) and weather (998)
- 6.30 Regional News (330)
- 7.00 Holiday India, a winter break in Portugal, a Jeep safari in southwest Turkey, and Bath (2922)
- 7.30 EastEnders Tensions rise to boiling point behind the bar in the Vic (T) (813)
- 8.00 Children's Hospital The staff treat a boy who fell from a first-floor window and a youngster who was knocked down by a car (1670)
- 8.30 999 Lifelines (7477)
- 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (T) and weather (3019)
- 9.30 One Foot in the Grave Victor and Margaret invite Mrs Wetherby to stay at their house until her flooded flat dries out (77835) 10.00 One Foot in the Grave (54486) 10.30 Inside Story (228816) 11.00 FILM: Obsessed (395800) 12.30 FILM: Cop for the Killing (707830) 2.20 Weather (997074)
- 10.00 Inside Story: Stories continue follow investigators as they follow up anonymous tip-offs (32458)
- 10.50 Obsessed (1992) with Sherron Doherty and William Devane. Middle-aged divorcee William Devane begins a passionate affair with attractive 22-year-old girl but soon discovers an unhealthy side to her personality after ending their relationship. Directed by Jonathan Sanger (9765670)
- 12.20am Cop for the Killing (1990) Starring James Farentino, Charles Hall and Steven Weber. Fact-based thriller about a tight-knit squad of undercover narcotics agents torn apart after the murder of an officer in the line of duty. Directed by Dick Lowry (9194152)
- 1.50 Weather (2778201)

VideoPlus and the Video Plus Codes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video Plus Codes, which allow you to programme your video recorder to automatically record a programme. Tap in the Video Plus Code for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus (T) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

- 6.00am Arctic University: Stena Cathedral (7475108) 6.30 Art Attack (94187) (5347458) 7.15 News (T) (9424564) 7.30 Captain Caveman and the Teen Angels (1330468) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (T) 8.20 Johnson and Friends (739818) 8.30 The Record (963363) 9.00 Standard Grade Modern Studies (942531) 9.20 The History Collection (1052800) 9.45 Watch (3780119) 10.00 Playdays (9877) 10.30 Come Outside (508057) 10.45 Science Zone (403458) 11.05 Space Ark (959090) 11.15 The Lab 11.30 Shakespeare (T) (9554) 12.00 Sue Hill (T) 12.30 News Working Lunch (98411) 1.00 Teaching Today (95818) 1.30 Showcase (9688125) 1.40 Hotch Potch House (1072767) 2.00 Johnson and Friends (1072767) 2.10 Everyone's Got One 3.00 News (T) (1501403) 3.05 Westminster (2288854) 3.55 News (T) (948038) 4.00 Today's the Day (903) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Go! (187) 5.00 Esther (7800)
- 5.30 True Romance Living with a Down's syndrome child (31203)
- 5.50 Lifetime (T) (975729) 6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air (T) (152380)
- 6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (189564)
- 7.10 The O Zone (925632)
- 7.25 Della's Red Nose Collection Jennifer Saunders helps to prepare Bloody Mary soup (T) (904125)
- 7.30 The Numbers Game examines turbulence (818)
- 8.00 Home Front (T) (9212)
- 8.30 Food and Drink Michael Barry prepares an Indian lamb dish and Jilly Goodwin and Oz Clarke recommend Portuguese wine (T) (5019)
- 9.00 Timewatch: Love Story Two German women, thrown together by the war, fall passionately in love. Lily Wust is married to a soldier, has four sons and a picture of Hitler on the wall, while Felice Schrengelheim is elegant, sophisticated — and Jewish (T) (563535)
- 9.50 Della's Red Nose Collection (T) (958187)
- 10.00 Have I Got Old News for You with Mark Little and Nigel Lawson (T) (52038)
- 10.30 Newswatch with Kirsty Wark (T) (400583)
- 11.15 Face to Face: Bob Monkhouse Sir Jeremy Isaacs digs into the past of the veteran entertainer (75941)
- 12.00 The Midpoints: Hour Political chat presented by Sir Bernard Ingham (88152)
- 12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone: Open University. World, Brass and Baboon Bones (86713) 1.00 The Front Desk (47248) 1.30 The Census (88826) 2.00 Learnexpress (30607) 4.00 IT (83559) 5.00 Europe (40866) 5.30 Film Education: Harlem (80881)



Lily Wust remembers (9.00pm)

CHOICE

- Timewatch: Love Story (9.00pm) Lily was a 25-year-old mother of four, married to a Nazi when she fell in love with a Jew in wartime Berlin. Not only that, but the Jew was another woman. Doubly dangerous given the Hitler regime's attitude towards what it saw as sexual deviants, their affair is vividly reconstructed by one of our best contemporary film-makers, Celine Clair. She had a huge slice of luck. The film would probably not have been possible had not Lily, now in her eighties, been willing to face the cameras and speak frankly. But Clair has tracked down other first-hand witnesses, as well as surviving photographs and letters, and makes a genuine, if unlikely, love story. Lily does not regret the affair, though she must wish it had happened at a different time and place.
- Inside Story: To Catch a Cheat (BBC1, 10.00pm Scotland, 10.30pm) Since the Government set up the benefits hotline last year, 1,000 callers a day have been phoning in with information designed to nail the cheats. But if Ian Sturges's film is representative, many of these whistleblowers seem, maliciously or otherwise, to be on the wrong track. The cameras follow Benefits Agency investigators as they tackle the two most common sources of fraud. One is claiming benefit while working, the other is claiming as a single person while living with a partner. Sometimes the Agency detectives do hit the jackpot, though the miscreants are generally poor people looking for a bit of extra cash rather than the criminal class. But in other cases the evidence is far too slim to warrant action. Curiously, the £3 billion lost in fraud each year is outweighed by the amount of benefit which is not claimed.
- No Child of Mine (ITV, 10.40pm) You would not think so young, dreadful things could happen to one young person. We first meet Kerry when she is 15. Her father sends her out to be a prostitute, her mother sexually abuses her, and her stepfather rapes her. Entering a children's home, she is pimped and raped all over again. It begins to sound like some ghastly parody of human perversion, except that it really happened. If Guy Hibbert's script about a real-life case is a case history rather than a drama, then case history is what it is. Criticism is reserved for the "system". The deeper question, of why five people should be engaged in violating one child, is never considered. Merely to raise it is probably disturbing enough. Kerry is played by Brooke Kinsella, an actress we shall surely hear of again.
- Face to Face (BBC2, 11.15pm) For somebody whose smile seems as permanent as his tan, Bob Monkhouse admits to more than his share of personal anguish. At times his chat with Sir Jeremy Isaacs seems more like a confession than a chat. Take his parents. Dad was a "glum man, much given to parsimony". His mother found it impossible to show her affection and only hugged him twice in her life. So, Isaac, was that why from a small boy he wanted to hear laughter and be the cause of it? Good question. And there was Gary, Monkhouse's son, who had cerebral palsy and died aged 40. How did that experience square with the all-smiling persona? The smile is temporarily veiled as Monkhouse tries to explain. In lighter vein we get the definitive explanation of that notorious tan.

HTV

- 6.00am GMTV (1048187)
- 9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (1142477)
- 9.55 Regional News (T) (5110941)
- 10.00 The Time, the Place (76238)
- 10.30 This Morning (T) (3339808)
- 12.20pm Regional News (T) (6078855)
- 12.30 News (T) and weather (792522)
- 12.55 Shortland Street (T) (7940941)
- 1.25 Home and Away (T) (1567054)
- 1.50 Afternoon Live (20562106)
- 2.20 Vanessa: Wrongly Accused (T) (20461106)
- 2.50 Afternoon Live (5478748)
- 3.20 News (T) (7008093)
- 3.25 Regional News (T) (8456534)
- 3.30 Potamus Park (7185038) 3.40 Vizcaya (T) (9796800) 3.50 Bimble's Bucket (T) (988212) 4.00 Scooby Doo (1154090) 4.15 Hey Arnold! (T) (9454477)
- 4.40 Frighteners: The Promise The first of four tales of the supernatural. A kid has promised to meet Ruth at midnight at the tomb of a 17th-century witch but is confronted instead by a young rector. But who is he really? (T) (9880767)
- 5.10 Getaways (7428477)
- 5.40 ITN News (T) and weather (305019)
- 6.00 Home and Away (T) (156106)
- 6.25 HTV Weather (826075)
- 6.30 HTV News (458)
- 7.00 Emmerdale Frank attempts to fend off the press (T) (7090)
- 7.30 The Trouble with Kids A five-part series on parenting following the progress of a group of Bristol parents who are having problems managing their children (870)
- 8.00 The Brit Awards 1997 hosted by Ben Elton. The winners of 15 awards will be announced and there will be live performances by British and international stars (T) (8200)
- 10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (48564)
- 10.30 Regional News (T) (844551)



Brooke Kinsella as Kerry (10.40pm)

CENTRAL

- As HTV West except:
- 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7940941)
- 1.50-5.40 Shortland Street (7428477)
- 6.25-7.00 Central News (430941)
- 7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (670)
- 12.45pm Film: The Lookalike (1990). A thriller starring Melissa Gilbert-Brinkman, Diane Ladd and Don Brinkman. Directed by Gary Nelson (54875)
- 2.25 In Focus (8623510)
- 3.10 Football Extra (8349539)
- 3.55 The Big Match Replayed (6441888)
- 4.35 Central Jobfinder '97 (8618862)
- 5.20 Asian Eye (2236171)

WESTCOUNTRY

- As HTV West except:
- 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6078835)
- 12.55-1.25 Wish You Were Here? (7940941)
- 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7428477)
- 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (67458)
- 7.30-8.00 Jack Pizzey's Coastline. Pizzey visits Sidmouth, Beer, Torquay and Dartmouth (670)

CHANNEL 4

- 6.00am Sesame Street (15767) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (10125) 9.00 Bewitched (T) (59941) 9.30 Schools (608083) 12.00 House to House (46477) 12.30pm Here's One I Made Earlier (T) (80309) 1.00 Cytill (T) (24285787) 1.25 Token Gentry (149274)
- 1.35 Blossoms in the Dust (1941) with Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon. Biographical drama about Edna Gladney, who founded the Texas Children's Home and Aid Society. Directed by Mervyn LeRoy (T) (7889282)
- 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (564) 4.00 Fifties-on-Ten (T) (869) 4.30 Countdown (T) (583) 5.00 Ricki Lake (T) (5496) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (885)
- 6.00 Friends: The One with George Stephanopoulos (T) (154748)
- 6.25 Ant and Dec Unrattled with guests including Jane Middlemas and Claire Buckfield (162787)
- 6.55 Fresh Pop (523467)
- 7.00 Channel 4 News (T) and weather (65659)
- 7.55 The Sports Photographer Jim White looks at the shortlist for Sports Photographer of the Year (944903)



Conservationists at work (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Wings: Night Birds (78) Elen Kelly and Chris Cates study owls in the Kielder Forest, Northumberland (T) (4380)
- 8.30 Brookside Has Mick finally pushed Shindig too far? (T) (4877)
- 9.00 Absolutely Funnny: How the Devil Became a Holy Fool Howard Jacobson examines how the forces of morality have affected comedy over the centuries (T) (6699)
- 10.00 Ed McBain's 87th Precinct (1994) with Randy Quaid, Alex McArthur and Ron Perkins. Tense police thriller with two detectives investigating the murder of a potential Olympic athlete. Directed by Bruce Paltrow (T) (772895)
- 11.40 Film Night Special: The English Patient Behind the scenes of Anthony Minghella's multi-Oscar nominated film which stars Ralph Fiennes and Kristin Scott-Thomas (80900)
- 12.40am The Typewriter, the Rifle & the Movie Camera Tim Robbins interviews the legendary Hollywood maverick Sam Fuller (2337317)
- 1.45 Park Row (1952) with Gene Evans and Mary Welch. Drama set in the world of newspaper publishing. Directed by Sam Fuller (4577152)
- 3.10 Hinelelo Goes on a Picnic and Blows Up Another Obelisk (7457248)
- 3.30 Someone to Love (1987) with Orson Welles and Henry Jaglom. An exploration of relationships in New York, directed by Henry Jaglom (560336)
- 5.20 Almost Complete History of the Twentieth Century (T) (T) (5158336)
- 5.35 Backdate (T) (T) (2044268)

SKY 1

- 6.00am Morning Glory (221125) 6.30am Rugs and Kuffs Live (5690) 7.00am Our Love World (5156) 7.30am Days of Our Lives (5152) 8.00am The Oprah Winfrey Show (8293) 1.00pm Oprah (2038) 2.00am Daily Soap (2400) 3.00am Jerry Seinfeld (223) 4.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (4256) 5.00am Star Trek: The Next Generation (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 10.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 11.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 12.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 1.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 2.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 3.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 4.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 5.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 6.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 7.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 8.00am Star Trek: Voyager (6767) 9.00am Star Trek:



ATHLETICS 42

Error over trials
rules Hansen out
of world indoor team

SPORT

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 25 1997

GOLF 46

Precise putting
helps champion
preside at Rye



England happy to go it alone

Fifa rules out joint bid for World Cup

By JOHN GOODBODY

FIFA yesterday dismissed any possibility of a joint bid by England and Germany to stage the 2006 World Cup. Football's international governing body ended speculation about co-hosting, which had been revived on Sunday night by reports that the German federation was considering the plan.

Both countries will now push ahead to get the backing of Uefa, the European governing body, for their individual applications to stage the 32-nation tournament. On February 7, Uefa withdrew its unequivocal support for Germany, dating back to 1993, and agreed to consider bids from its other member countries, including England.

Keith Cooper, the Fifa spokesman, said yesterday that even if a joint application were put forward, it "would not gain approval". He said: "Fifa decided, after awarding the 2002 finals jointly to Japan and South Korea, that the subsequent finals would revert to being played in one country."

The German federation had earlier said that Egidius Braun, its president, had been misunderstood in an interview that he gave to ARD, the national television station, on Sunday. Michael Novak, the spokesman for the DFB, said that at no point was the subject raised.

According to the transcript of the interview, Braun was asked if Uefa had already made a decision to back the German application. Braun replied: "Uefa had always assumed that Germany would be the only [European] country bidding and had always said: 'We support Germany'."

But after the European championship, the English came, and I said to Franz Beckenbauer on January 14:

"It is time that we talk with England [about] whether we can have one European bid or whether we should not have a split bid."

Novak said that the word "split" referred to whether Europe would have an application from one country or two, and not whether Germany and England would share a bid.

Novak said: "There was never any suggestion that he [Braun] was talking about sharing the World Cup. It was clear that he was talking about a split in bidding for the cup, not in sharing it."

Alec McGivan, the director of England's application to stage the tournament, said on

Middlesbrough will attempt to win back the three points that were deducted by the FA Premier League at an appeal on March 26. George Carran QC will represent the club at Lancaster Gate. The points were deducted for Middlesbrough's failure to fulfil the FA Carling Premiership fixture at Blackburn in December.

BBC Radio: "If our colleagues at the German FA come to us with some form of proposals or plan, we would have the courtesy to discuss it with them."

"I don't think we can say no to anything straight away. But we have a very strong bid on our own which can stand up on its own. For us, the only option under consideration is our own bid, and that is not going to change in the near future."

The Football Association announced its interest in the competition last July after successfully staging the European championship finals.

which made a record profit for Uefa of more than £60 million.

The suggestion that England and Germany might jointly stage the 2006 competition was raised after a three-hour meeting in London on February 7, when the FA persuaded Uefa to back down.

Gerhard Aigner, the general secretary of Uefa, said that a compromise plan for co-hosting had not been ruled out. Aigner, who is himself German, said: "I come from a country where compromises are always sought... we will have to wait and see how it goes."

In April, the German and English associations will meet Uefa to discuss whether they can agree on the criteria by which only one nation will be nominated by the European governing body.

The FA has said that if it agrees the criteria, it will also accept Uefa's final decision, even if Germany is chosen. Uefa wants to avoid a damaging and expensive conflict similar to the one between South Korea and Japan for the right to hold the 2002 World Cup, which resulted in them becoming joint hosts.

It is not certain, however, that any European country will stage the event, particularly since candidates still have at least two years to apply. With France to hold the 1998 tournament, the 2006 finals might go to South America, which has not staged the event since Mexico in 1986, or Africa, which has never hosted the competition.

It is only at the end of next year that Fifa will send out letters to all national associations — except those in Asia — asking for bids. The deadline for applications is February 1999, and the deadline for guarantees from bidding nations that they can meet the necessary conditions will be September 1999. The Fifa executive committee will make its decision in June 2000.

Dundee denied, page 44
Keller in demand, page 44



Bellamy, left, and Ayer, the Oxford and Cambridge boat club presidents, in London yesterday for the Official Boat Race Challenge

Bellamy misses university challenge

By MIKE ROSSWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

FOR the second year running a president will not have the honour of rowing in the University Boat Race. In 1996 John Carver, of Cambridge, stood down with an injury.

At the Official Boat Race Challenge yesterday, at the Oxo Tower in London, Ed Bellamy, the Oxford president, duly challenged Ethan Ayer, his opposite number, but presumably with a tinge of regret since Bellamy, a Blue in 1996 and a former Great Britain international and winner at Henley, was not in the Oxford line-up that was named.

Bellamy, as a result of final trials, lost the last place in the Blue Boat to Charlie Humphreys, five years his junior and a later product of Hampton, his old school.

Bellamy, as president, took his omission philosophically. Referring to Humphreys, he said: "I just kept him out last year. He has done it to me this year. You have to let the young ones come up. At least he comes from the right school."

Bellamy will continue to row in Isis, the reserve boat.

Oxford named their final line-up yesterday, but Cambridge, chasing a fifth successive win, hedged their bets, as in 1993, by naming a squad of nine oarsmen. Unlike in 1995, they did select the cox — Kevin Whyman, the 1996 Blue, being preferred to Suzie Ellis, the top female performer in Great Britain, although Robin Williams, the Cambridge coach, said: "It was the hardest selection decision of the whole year."

Ellis, who went straight to Cambridge from the Olympic Games last year, will steer Goldie, the reserve boat.

The Oxford crew contains no Blues, the non-selection of Bellamy having been preceded by the decision of Damian West, the Britain international and only other 1996 Blue, to withdraw from the scene a month ago injured.

Three 1996 Isis performers, all former Britain junior internationals in the persons of James Roycroft, Charlie Humphreys and Alex Greaney, the cox, have made the "big one" this year, but the other six are all new to Oxford. Best known of these are Tim Foster, a bronze medal-winner for Britain in the coxless fours in Atlanta, Luka Grubor, of Croatia, and Roberto Blanda, of

Italy. Blanda will be the first Italian to row in the Boat Race. Andrew Lindsay and Nick Robinson, the exceptional Great Britain juniors, have achieved selection in their first year, and Jordan Irving, a member of the Yale crew last year and a United States under-23 international, completes the line-up.

Cambridge's nine predictably include Ayer, a Blue from the United States, Alex Story, a Great Britain Olympian, and Brad Crombie, the Canada international. A bonus is James Ball, their 1996 stroke, who decided just before Christmas to try to make the team again.

Three of the 1996 record-breaking Goldie crew David Cassidy, Roger Pim, from Ireland, and Alan Watson — are in the frame for greater things, and Toby Wallace and Damien Maltarp, the remaining two, are young late developers. Maltarp, a Dane, was educated at Eton before starting to row at Cambridge.

The potential line-ups for the 1997 race, at 4pm on March 29, have a more youthful look than in recent years. Oxford's fielding five undergraduates while Cambridge at present have eight.

Cambridge, at an average height of 6ft 5in, boast a Boat Race height record, with Ayer remaining the tallest competitor in the history of the race at 6ft 8in. Length of levers help in rowing and Cambridge certainly have this.

The 143rd Boat Race will mark 11 years of sponsorship by Beefeater Gin. £3.38 million having gone into Oxford and Cambridge rowing during this period. Beefeater has spent twice this amount again in promoting its sponsorship worldwide.

BOAT RACE CREWS

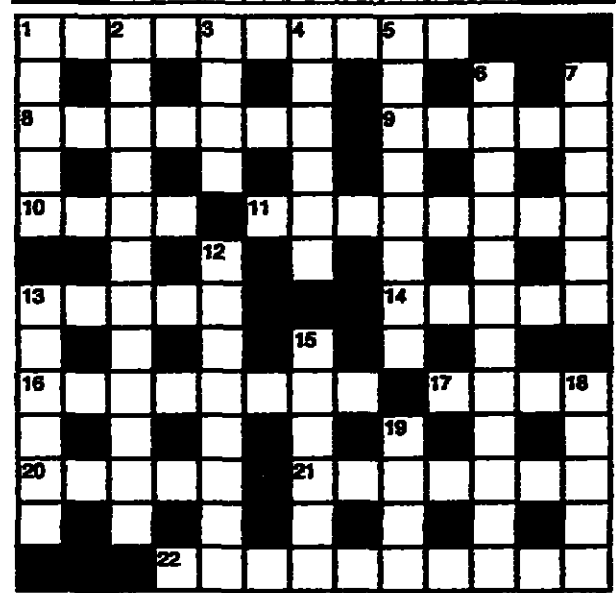
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY (from)

* E Ayer (Phillips Academy, Harvard and St Edmund's), 25, 6ft 6in, 14st 10lb, President
R Pim (Methodist, Belfast and Downing), 21, 6ft 5in, 13st 7lb
J Ball (King's, Chester and Robinson), 22, 6ft 5in, 13st 7lb
R Grubor (McGill Law and Peabody), 23, 6ft 6in, 15st 2lb
A Story (Henley and St Edmund's), 24, 6ft 7in, 15st 10lb
T Wallace (King Edward VI, Southampton and Jesus), 25, 6ft 6in, 14st 2lb
D Maltarp (Eton and Trinity), 22, 6ft 4in, 13st 5lb
A Greaney (Greenfield and Sidney Sussex), 22, 6ft 5in, 13st 1lb
D Cassidy (Shrewsbury and Trinity), 21, 6ft 4in, 13st 10lb
Cox: * K Whyman (King's, Chester and Peabody), 21, 5ft 8in, 14st 10lb

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Bow: J Roycroft (Eton and Keeble), 18, 6ft 6in, 14st 10lb
R Lindsay (Eton and Downing), 20, 6ft 11in, 14st 10lb
N Robinson (Hampton and Lincoln), 19, 6ft 6in, 14st 10lb
L Grubor (Malmesbury, Jnr's, Dagen, Imperial College, London and St Antony's), 23, 6ft 6in, 15st 10lb
R Blanda (University of Washington, Seattle and Brasenose), 25, 6ft 6in, 15st 10lb
S C Humphreys (Hampton and Oriel), 20, 6ft 3in, 13st 4lb
J Irving (TC Williams HS, Yale and Keeble), 23, 6ft 4in, 14st 10lb
S Foster (St John's, Bedford Modern, University of London and St Antony's), 27, 6ft 3in, 14st 7lb
Cox: P Greaney (Hampton and St Edmund Hall), 21, 6ft 11in, 14st 7lb

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1026

ACROSS

- 1 Disparaging (remark) (10)
- 8 Subject of feudal lord (7)
- 9 Bird, he's in his hammock (Newbold) (5)
- 10 Work for three (4)
- 11 Obligated (to one) (8)
- 13 Fashion, craze (5)
- 14 Dwelling-place (5)
- 16 Goes back over (steps) (8)
- 17 One threaded on necklace: drop of liquid (4)
- 20 Royal race meeting (5)
- 21 Inert pill (7)
- 22 German shorts with braces (10)

DOWN

- 1 Turf piece displaced (5)
- 2 Railway vehicles (7,5)
- 3 Became larger (4)
- 4 Underground passage (6)
- 5 Amateur broadcaster (5,3)
- 6 Generosity (12)
- 7 Spiritualist session (6)
- 12 Witty exchange (8)
- 13 In words (6)
- 15 Sentimental film (6)
- 18 Die in water (5)
- 19 Pulp field-hospital TV series (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1025

ACROSS: 7 Gift 8 Anarchic 9 Pamphlet 10 Numb 11 Potent 13 Occupy 15 Verdun 17 Domino 19 Crib 21 Imperial 23 Resolute 24 Sick
DOWN: 1 Viva voce 2 Staple 3 Pall 4 Last word 5 Seismic 6 Firm 12 Timidus 14 Penitence 16 Debut 18 Mirass 20 Red 22 Peel

PRICES NOW INCLUDE FREE UK DELIVERY TO TIMES READERS (REST OF WORLD ADD POSTAGE). STYLING: PHILIPPA J. L. CHURCHILL. ONLY 10c US\$ 1.00, TIMES

Suker puts Arsenal and United on shopping list

By DAVID MADDOCK

DAVOR SUKER, Real Madrid's Croatia forward, could become the latest high-priced import to the FA Carling Premiership. Suker travelled to London yesterday, officially on a shopping trip with his girlfriend, Anna O'Brien, a celebrated Spanish actress.

In fact, he was in England to talk to officials from Arsenal. Real Madrid are, apparently, prepared to allow him to leave Spain at the end of the season for a fee approaching £10 million.

Suker is the joint top-scorer in the Spanish league this season with 21 goals. However, Arsenal face opposition from Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, who is also an admirer. Suker is aware of this and spent much of yesterday attempting to make contact with the English champions to express his interest in a move to Old Trafford.

It remains to be seen if Manchester United are sufficiently interested to consider spending £10 million on a



Suker: talks

player who has recently reached the age of 29.

Arsenal are certainly interested. Arsene Wenger sees the Croatian — who had scored 17 goals in 18 games before the European championship last summer, and was the top scorer in the qualifying tournament with 12 goals in ten games — as a perfect foil for Dennis Bergkamp.

Suker scored a hat-trick for Real on Sunday in the 6-1 defeat of Real Oviedo, but he has apparently come to the

end of his time with the team which now appears certain to win the Spanish championship.

They have acquired a new coach in Fabio Capello, once of AC Milan, and despite his goalscoring feats the Spanish giants have their eyes on a new man. Capello wants to sign George Weah, once his charge at Milan and that would mean no place for Suker.

Manchester United are keen to sign another forward, but they have now missed the deadline for signing players available to play in the European Cup this season.

Sasa Curcic underlined his desire to leave Aston Villa yesterday by handing in an official transfer request. His decision means that he will lose around £100,000 in bonuses that would have otherwise been due to him. Brian Little, the Villa manager, said: "He will lose certain financial agreements — and not many players would do that. His request for a move isn't a mercenary thing and he just wants to play football."

Henman rises five ranking places

TIM HENMAN'S world tennis ranking rose from 19 to 14 yesterday, despite his defeat by Marc Rosset, of Switzerland, in the final of the European Community cham-

far too few to achieve consistently good results and he is in for a difficult period from the point of view of rankings.

Last March he reached the semi-finals of both the Rotter-

dam Open and the Indian Wells tournament before going on to the Lipton championships in Key Biscayne.

Henman believes his poor

Clubs await new deal on television

CLUBS in each of the home rugby unions will be on tenterhooks to see what financial assistance they will receive, should reports of an announcement today of a television agreement be substantiated (David Hands writes).

Revenue from televising the game is seen as a vital ingredient in funding the professional clubs, many of whom have struggled desperately this season to sustain contracts with their players.

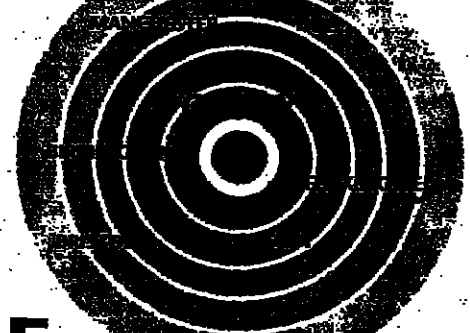
England already have an agreement worth £87.5 million with BSkyB, the satellite company part-owned by News International, owner of *The Times*, which at one stage last year seemed likely to cause their exclusion from the five nations' championship.

However, BSkyB may now have switched its interest from an involvement with the three other home unions to the European club competition, the Heineken Cup, which has been so successful in its brief existence, though the sponsors undoubtedly would also wish for terrestrial television coverage.

There is speculation that the BBC, which has always televised the five nations', but whose present contract ends next month, will retain those championship matches not involving England.

The natural consequence of

IN THE MIDDLE OF



EVERYWHERE

Corby - at the live centre of a market of 30 million people in two hour's road radius. Bang in the middle of the national motorway network with speedy access via its very own fast-track, the A14. Operating non-stop 24-hour Channel railfreight deliveries from intermodal Eurohub road-rail distribution centre. Magnet for overseas companies - with one of the highest pro-rata concentrations in the UK. Move your business swiftly into low-cost premises in fast-track Planning Zones. And into the company of 1,000 other dynamic modern enterprises that have chosen the *Real Live Centre* in the past ten years. For more information ring John Hill on 01536 262571 or clip your business card to this advert and fax or post to:

Corby Industrial Development Centre, Grosvenor House, George Street.

Sleaze pur
MPs' outsi

Courts unfair
The British court system is under attack from all sides. The courts are seen as a barrier to progress and a source of inefficiency. The courts are seen as a barrier to progress and a source of inefficiency.

Human clones
The prospect of human cloning is a topic that has captured the public imagination. It is a topic that has captured the public imagination.

The Times on the Internet
http://www.times.co.uk